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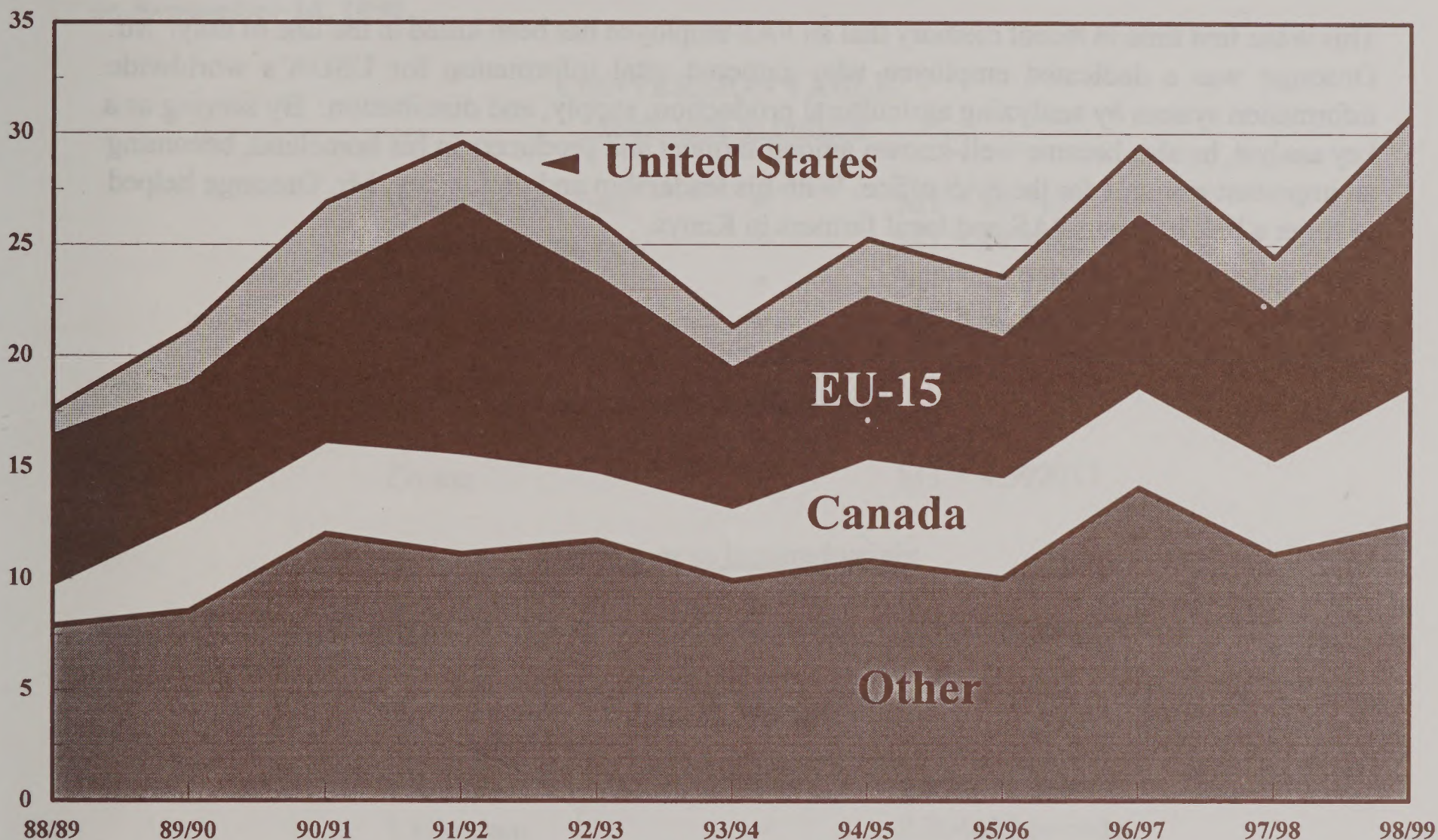
World Agricultural Production

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Durum Wheat In Selected Countries

MMT

Production



Durum wheat production for 1998/99 in selected durum-producing countries is forecast at a record 30.8 million tons, up 6.4 million or 26 percent from last year and the highest since 29.6 million in 1991/92. Harvested area is forecast at 16.1 million hectares, up 1.2 million from last season while yield is forecast at a record 1.91 tons per hectare, up 16 percent from 1997/98. The European Union (EU-15), Canada, and the United States account for nearly sixty percent of the global production. Approximately 5 percent of all wheat grown is durum. The 1998/99 crop is forecast to be significantly higher than last year due to increases for the United States, EU-15, Canada, Syria, Turkey, Algeria, and Morocco. A premium on durum due to increased demand has resulted in many countries expanding area.

In Memoriam

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is saddened by the death of one of its employees, Evans Onsongo, as a result of the terrorist bombing of the American Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, on August 7, 1998. Mr. Onsongo, a Kenyan working as an FAS agricultural specialist, was one of the many casualties in the tragedy. He is survived by his wife and two children. Two other FAS employees—Lydia Mbithi, the office secretary, and Moses Kinyua, the clerk-messenger for the Nairobi office, were seriously injured. Marketing Specialist Carol Ngugi was injured, but she was treated and released.

This is the first time in recent memory that an FAS employee has been killed in the line of duty. Mr. Onsongo was a dedicated employee who gathered vital information for USDA's worldwide information system by analyzing agricultural production, supply, and distribution. By serving as a key analyst, he also became well-known among farmers and producers in his homeland, becoming an important resource for the FAS office. With his leadership and diplomacy, Mr. Onsongo helped to forge a link between FAS and local farmers in Kenya.

This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from the USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. This report is based on unrounded data; numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-341), August 12, 1998.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD), FAS/USDA, AgStop 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:30 p.m. Eastern time on September 14, 1998.

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917
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Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622
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Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

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FAS Weekly Weather Maps at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/pecad/weather/weekly.html>
National Agricultural Statistics Service at <http://www.usda.gov/nass>
World Agricultural Outlook Board at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob>
Economic Research Service at <http://www.usda.gov/ers>
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>

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PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1998/99

August 1998

WHEAT

<u>Country</u>	<u>----- Current Estimate MMT</u>	<u>1998/99 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>----- Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change from 1997/9 8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	597.7	-3.7	-1	-2	Production is forecast lower this month as a decrease in the total foreign category more than offset an increase in the United States.
United States	69.4	+0.7	+1	+1	Production is forecast higher due to an increase in yield. Yield is at a record and output is the highest since 1990/91.
Total Foreign	528.3	-4.4	-1	-3	Production is forecast lower as decreases in Russia, China, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Romania, and South Africa more than offset increases in the EU-15, Australia, Afghanistan, Brazil, Morocco, and Yugoslavia.
China	110.0	-8.0	-7	-11	Production is forecast lower due to a preliminary official report for winter wheat indicating lower yield.
Ukraine	15.0	-1.5	-9	-18	Production is forecast lower as heavy rains in the west and dry, hot weather in the east reduced winter wheat yield.
Kazakhstan	6.5	-1.5	-19	-27	Production is forecast lower as persistent hot, dry weather during heading and flowering reduced yield prospects.
Romania	5.2	-0.5	-9	-28	Production is forecast down as harvest results indicate lower yield.
South Africa	2.1	-0.5	-19	-8	Production is forecast lower as weak prices reduced area below last season's level.
EU -15	103.3	+2.2	+2	+9	Production is forecast at a record due to increases in yield for France and Spain which more than offset declines in the United Kingdom and Germany.
Australia	21.5	+1.5	+8	+16	Production is forecast higher due to favorable weather across most of the growing areas.
Afghanistan	2.8	+1.1	+65	+3	Production is forecast at a record level. Also, data for previous years have been revised.
Uzbekistan	3.5	+0.5	+17	+13	Production is forecast higher as preliminary harvest results indicate an increase in yield.
Brazil	2.6	+0.4	+19	-10	Production is forecast higher due to increases in area and yield. The weather has been generally favorable.

WHEAT, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Yugoslavia	5.1	+0.5	+11	+2	Production is forecast higher due to harvest reports in Serbia indicating an increase in yield.
Morocco	4.4	+0.4	+10	+90	Production is forecast up due to official reports indicating higher yield.

COARSE GRAINS

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	893.9	-4.7	-1	+0	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in the United States and total foreign category.
United States	268.1	-0.9	-0	+1	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in corn, oats, and barley which more than offset an increase in sorghum.
Total Foreign	625.8	-3.9	-1	-0	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in Russia, Ukraine, Romania, and Bulgaria; however, output in the EU-15 increased.
Russia	26.9	-2.6	-9	-34	Production is forecast lower as persistent hot, dry weather in the Volga Valley and Urals reduced barley and corn yield.
Ukraine	12.8	-0.7	-5	-17	Production is forecast lower due to hot, dry weather that reduced corn yield potential. Area for barley, oats, and rye are revised higher based on official area statistics.
Romania	11.1	-0.5	-4	-26	Production is forecast lower as below-normal rainfall and hot temperatures negatively affected the corn crop.
Bulgaria	1.8	-0.3	-15	-26	Production is forecast lower due to hot, dry weather that negatively affected corn yield potential.
Kazakstan	2.0	-0.3	-12	-37	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in barley and oat yields. The crops were stressed by hot, dry weather this month.

COARSE GRAINS, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
EU-15	106.5	+1.3	+1	-3	Production is forecast higher as increases for corn in Italy and barley in France and Spain more than offset a decrease for barley in the United Kingdom and Germany. Also, rye production in Germany is reduced, while oat output in Spain is increased.

RICE (MILLED BASIS)

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	386.3	-1.6	-0	+0	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in the United States and the total foreign category.
United States	5.8	-0.4	-6	-1	Production is forecast lower due to a reduction in yield.
Total Foreign	380.5	-1.3	-0	+0	Production is forecast lower this month due to a reduction in China which more than offset an increase in Thailand. Production is forecast at a record.
China	138.0	-2.0	-1	-2	Production is forecast lower due to reductions in area and yield. Reports of lower early-rice area and the affects of flooding reduced area and yield forecasts.
Thailand	14.8	+0.2	+1	NC	Production is forecast higher due to increased area for the main-season crop and an upward revision of last year's second-season crop.

OILSEEDS

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/98</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	288.1	-0.2	-0	+0	Production is forecast lower this month as a decrease in the United States more than offset an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	86.0	-0.5	-1	+2	Production is forecast lower this month due to decreases in soybeans, peanuts, and cottonseed.

OILSEEDS, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/98</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Total Foreign	202.1	+0.3	+0	-0	Production is estimated marginally higher primarily because of an increase in Argentina.
Argentina	22.5	+0.2	+1	-10	Production is forecast higher based on an increased yield for sunflowerseed.

PALM OIL

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/98</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	18.1	+0.3	+2	+2	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in Indonesia.
Indonesia	6.0	+0.3	+5	+4	Production is forecast at a record based on an expansion in palm oil area.

COTTON

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MBALES</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MBALES</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/98</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World Total	86.2	-0.2	-0	-6	Production is forecast down due to a decrease in the United States.
United States	14.3	-0.7	-5	-24	Production is forecast lower as hot, dry conditions during the growing season reduced area and yield potential.
Total Foreign	71.9	+0.6	+1	-1	Production is forecast higher due to increases in Turkey, Australia, Mali, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan which more than offset declines in Argentina and Cote d'Ivoire.
Turkey	3.7	+0.3	+9	-3	Production is forecast higher as favorable growing conditions prevailed over the cotton areas offsetting the less-than-desirable cool, wet weather during early plant development.
Australia	2.8	+0.2	+8	-8	Production is forecast higher due to an expansion in sown area as irrigation water supplies have increased.

COTTON, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MBALES</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MBALES</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/98</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Mali	1.1	+0.2	+17	+6	Production is forecast higher as recent rains improved yield potential.
Tajikistan	0.6	+0.1	+20	+20	Production is forecast higher due to improved yield potential as fertilizers and other inputs have become more available to farmers.
Kazakstan	0.4	+0.1	+40	+23	Production is forecast higher mainly due to increased area.
Argentina	1.6	-0.1	-6	+23	Production is forecast lower as sown area is adjusted downward.
Cote d'Ivoire	0.7	-0.1	-13	-3	Production is forecast lower as recent dry conditions reduced yield potential.

TABLE 1

U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield			Production		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.
	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--			--Million bushels--		
All Wheat	75.6	71.0	65.8	62.9	63.6	59.2	36.3	39.7	42.6	2,285	2,527	2,549
Winter	52.0	48.3	46.9	39.7	41.8	40.8	37.2	45.0	46.6	1,478	1,883	1,914
Other	23.6	22.7	19.0	23.2	21.8	18.4	34.8	29.5	33.9	807	644	635
Soybeans	64.2	70.8	72.7	63.4	69.9	71.6	37.6	39.0	39.5	2,382	2,727	2,825
Corn	79.5	80.2	80.8	73.1	73.7	73.8	127.1	127.0	129.6	9,293	9,366	9,592
Sorghum	13.2	10.1	9.7	11.9	9.4	7.8	67.5	69.5	64.7	803	653	529
Barley	7.1	6.9	6.4	6.8	6.4	6.1	58.5	58.3	61.9	396	374	374
Oats	4.7	5.2	5.0	2.7	2.9	2.9	57.8	60.5	62.4	155	176	177
							--Pounds per acre--			--Million CWT--		
Rice	2.8	3.1	3.2	2.8	3.0	3.2	6,121	5,896	5,930	171.3	178.9	177.7
										--Million 480-pound bales--		
All Cotton	14.6	13.8	12.9	12.9	13.3	10.7	707	680	645	18.9	18.8	14.3

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America		Europe		Asia				South America		Selected Other			All Others						
			United States	Canada	Mexico	Europe Union	Oth. Europe	W. Europe	Eastern Europe	FSU-12	China	India	Indonesia	Paki- stan	Thai- land		Argen- tina	Brazil	Aus- tralia	South Africa	Turkey	
—Million metric tons—																						
Wheat																						
1996/97	583.3	521.1	62.2	29.8	3.5	98.5	2.2	26.5	63.3	110.6	62.1	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.9	3.2	23.7	2.7	16.0	46.2		
1997/98 prel.	611.1	542.4	68.8	24.3	3.5	94.4	1.0	34.9	80.5	123.3	69.3	0.0	16.7	0.0	14.7	2.8	18.6	2.3	16.0	40.3		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	601.4	532.7	68.7	24.0	3.6	101.1	1.5	32.8	68.2	118.0	67.0	0.0	18.5	0.0	11.5	2.2	20.0	2.6	18.0	43.8		
Aug.	597.7	528.3	69.4	24.0	3.6	103.3	1.5	32.9	66.4	110.0	67.0	0.0	18.5	0.0	11.5	2.6	21.5	2.1	18.0	45.5		
Coarse Grains																						
1996/97	908.1	640.6	267.6	28.2	26.3	103.8	3.7	49.6	52.1	141.3	34.3	6.0	1.8	4.1	18.9	37.0	10.1	9.6	9.8	103.9		
1997/98 prel.	891.9	626.5	265.4	25.2	24.5	109.4	2.2	58.3	68.0	116.7	30.7	5.7	1.9	3.7	25.0	31.8	8.7	8.1	8.1	98.6		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	898.6	629.6	268.9	25.6	25.3	105.2	2.9	50.8	53.3	135.0	32.2	6.0	1.9	4.1	22.2	35.8	8.4	9.0	10.7	101.4		
Aug.	893.8	625.8	268.1	25.6	25.3	106.5	2.9	49.9	49.5	134.7	32.2	6.0	1.9	4.1	22.1	35.8	8.4	9.0	10.7	101.4		
Rice (Milled)																						
1996/97	380.0	374.6	5.5	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.7	136.6	81.3	32.1	4.3	13.7	0.8	6.5	1.0	0.0	0.3	95.5		
1997/98 prel.	384.6	378.8	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	140.5	83.5	30.9	4.4	14.8	0.6	5.8	1.0	0.0	0.2	94.3		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	387.9	381.7	6.2	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.8	140.0	83.5	33.0	4.4	14.6	0.8	6.7	0.9	0.0	0.2	94.8		
Aug.	386.3	380.5	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	138.0	83.5	33.0	4.4	14.8	0.8	6.7	0.9	0.0	0.2	95.3		
Total Grains 1/																						
1996/97	1871.5	1536.3	335.2	58.0	30.1	203.8	5.9	76.2	116.2	388.5	177.8	38.0	23.0	17.8	35.6	46.6	34.8	12.3	26.1	245.7		
1997/98 prel.	1887.7	1547.7	340.0	49.5	28.2	205.4	3.2	93.2	149.2	380.5	183.5	36.6	22.9	18.5	40.2	40.4	28.2	10.4	24.3	233.2		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	1887.9	1544.1	343.8	49.6	29.2	208.0	4.4	83.6	122.3	393.0	182.7	39.0	24.8	18.7	34.5	44.6	29.3	11.6	29.0	240.0		
Aug.	1877.8	1534.6	343.2	49.6	29.2	211.5	4.4	82.8	116.6	382.7	182.7	39.0	24.8	18.9	34.4	45.0	30.8	11.1	29.0	242.2		
Oilseeds 2/																						
1996/97	261.1	186.3	74.8	7.3	0.5	13.0	0.1	4.7	8.4	41.4	27.3	2.5	3.7	0.5	17.5	27.5	1.8	0.8	1.9	27.5		
1997/98 prel.	287.0	202.7	84.2	9.0	0.6	15.0	0.1	4.3	9.1	43.4	25.7	2.4	3.5	0.5	24.9	31.8	2.0	0.9	2.0	27.4		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	288.3	201.7	86.6	9.6	0.6	16.0	0.1	5.4	9.7	41.0	26.7	2.5	3.8	0.5	22.3	30.3	2.4	0.9	2.0	27.9		
Aug.	288.1	202.1	86.0	9.6	0.6	16.0	0.1	5.4	9.8	41.0	26.7	2.5	3.8	0.5	22.5	30.3	2.5	0.9	2.0	27.8		
Cotton																						
1996/97	89.4	70.5	18.9	0.0	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	6.6	19.3	13.8	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	3.6	11.1		
1997/98 prel.	91.2	72.4	18.8	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.2	21.1	12.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.3	1.8	3.1	0.2	3.8	11.7		
1998/99 proj.																						
July	86.3	71.3	15.0	0.0	1.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	7.2	19.5	12.5	0.0	7.5	0.0	1.7	1.8	2.6	0.2	3.4	11.6		
Aug.	86.2	71.9	14.3	0.0	1.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	7.4	19.5	12.5	0.0	7.5	0.0	1.6	1.8	2.8	0.2	3.7	11.6		

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.

2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.

Note: Entries of 0.0 Indicate no reported or Insignificant production.

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 3
Wheat Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	231.27	230.76	225.27	225.52	2.52	2.65	2.67	2.65	583.31	611.13	601.39	597.68	-3.71	-0.62	-13.45	-2.20
United States	25.47	25.73	23.96	23.96	2.44	2.67	2.86	2.89	62.19	68.76	68.65	69.37	0.72	1.05	0.61	0.88
Total Foreign	205.81	205.03	201.30	201.56	2.53	2.65	2.65	2.62	521.12	542.37	532.74	528.31	-4.43	-0.83	-14.06	-2.59
Major Exporters	47.44	45.37	43.74	43.52	3.54	3.35	3.58	3.68	167.91	151.95	156.61	160.32	3.71	2.37	8.37	5.51
European Union	16.74	17.43	17.24	17.02	5.89	5.41	5.87	6.07	98.51	94.40	101.11	103.32	2.21	2.19	8.92	9.45
France	5.02	5.11	5.23	5.23	7.15	6.66	6.89	7.46	35.94	34.00	36.00	39.00	3.00	8.33	5.00	14.71
United Kingdom	1.98	2.04	2.14	2.10	8.15	7.39	7.94	7.86	16.10	15.05	17.00	16.50	-0.50	-2.94	1.45	9.63
Germany	2.59	2.73	2.81	2.79	7.29	7.27	7.47	7.35	18.92	19.83	21.00	20.50	-0.50	-2.38	0.67	3.39
Canada	12.26	11.40	10.60	10.60	2.43	2.13	2.26	2.26	29.80	24.30	24.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-1.23
Australia	11.34	10.84	11.10	11.10	2.09	1.71	1.80	1.94	23.70	18.55	20.00	21.50	1.50	7.50	2.95	15.88
Argentina	7.10	5.70	4.80	4.80	2.24	2.58	2.40	2.40	15.90	14.70	11.50		0.00	0.00	-3.20	-21.77
Major Importers	92.73	93.95	91.34	91.58	2.34	2.67	2.55	2.44	216.62	251.21	232.66	223.67	-8.99	-3.86	-27.54	-10.96
China	29.61	30.06	29.80	29.80	3.73	4.10	3.96	3.69	110.57	123.30	118.00	110.00	-8.00	-6.78	-13.30	-10.79
FSU-12	47.73	48.34	46.12	46.14	1.33	1.67	1.48	1.44	63.30	80.51	68.24	66.35	-1.89	-2.77	-14.16	-17.59
Russia	25.72	26.10	25.90	25.90	1.36	1.69	1.35	1.35	34.90	44.20	35.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	-9.20	-20.81
Ukraine	5.89	6.50	5.90	5.90	2.30	2.83	2.80	2.54	13.55	18.40	16.50	15.00	-1.50	-9.09	-3.40	-18.48
Kazakhstan	12.20	11.50	10.00	10.00	0.63	0.78	0.80	0.65	7.70	8.95	8.00	6.50	-1.50	-18.75	-2.45	-27.37
Baltic States	0.52	0.57	0.58	0.58	2.68	2.69	2.61	2.61	1.40	1.55	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-2.91
Eastern Europe	8.81	9.92	9.45	9.52	3.01	3.51	3.47	3.45	26.50	34.86	32.77	32.87	0.10	0.31	-1.99	-5.71
Poland	2.48	2.56	2.55	2.55	3.46	3.21	3.37	3.37	8.58	8.19	8.60	8.60	0.00	0.00	0.41	4.97
Romania	1.80	2.35	2.00	2.00	1.76	3.06	2.85	2.60	3.17	7.19	5.70	5.20	-0.50	-8.77	-1.99	-27.64
Egypt	1.02	1.04	1.05	1.05	5.64	5.60	5.71	5.71	5.74	5.85	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	2.56
Morocco	3.21	2.49	3.10	3.10	1.84	0.93	1.29	1.42	5.92	2.32	4.00	4.40	0.40	10.00	2.08	89.90
Brazil	1.83	1.52	1.25	1.40	1.74	1.86	1.72	1.82	3.20	2.83	2.15	2.55	0.40	18.60	-0.28	-9.89
Other Foreign	65.64	65.71	66.23	66.46	2.08	2.12	2.17	2.17	136.60	139.21	143.47	144.32	0.85	0.59	5.11	3.67
India	25.01	25.93	25.60	25.60	2.48	2.67	2.62	2.62	62.10	69.28	67.00	67.00	0.00	0.00	-2.28	-3.28
Turkey	8.45	8.50	8.60	8.60	1.89	1.88	2.09	2.09	16.00	16.00	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	12.50
Pakistan	8.38	8.11	8.40	8.40	2.02	2.05	2.20	2.20	16.91	16.65	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	1.85	11.11
Mexico	0.81	0.81	0.83	0.83	3.84	4.32	4.34	4.34	3.11	3.50	3.60	3.60	0.00	0.00	0.10	2.86
Saudi Arabia	0.27	0.34	0.34	0.34	4.53	5.36	5.37	5.37	1.20	1.80	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	1.29	1.38	1.50	1.20	2.09	1.65	1.73	1.75	2.70	2.28	2.60	2.10	-0.50	-19.23	-0.18	-8.02
Others	21.44	20.64	20.97	21.49	1.61	1.44	1.52	1.55	34.58	29.70	31.97	33.32	1.35	4.22	3.62	12.20

TABLE 5
Corn Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production				
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year		
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent	
World		Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
United States	141.03	136.92	141.80	141.05	4.19	4.23	4.23	4.22	591.44	578.61	599.41	595.49	-3.92	-0.65	16.87	2.92	
Total Foreign	29.60	29.83	30.06	29.86	7.97	7.97	8.13	8.16	236.06	237.90	244.49	243.65	-0.84	-0.34	5.75	2.42	
	111.43	107.09	111.74	111.19	3.19	3.18	3.18	3.16	355.37	340.72	354.92	351.84	-3.09	-0.87	11.12	3.26	
Major Exporters																	
Argentina	7.96	7.29	7.80	7.80	3.57	4.21	3.90	3.90	28.41	30.70	30.40	30.40	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-0.98	
South Africa	3.40	3.25	3.60	3.60	4.56	6.03	5.00	5.00	15.50	19.60	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	-1.60	-8.16	
Thailand	3.36	2.96	3.00	3.00	2.68	2.57	2.83	2.83	9.01	7.60	8.50	8.50	0.00	0.00	0.90	11.84	
	1.20	1.08	1.20	1.20	3.25	3.24	3.25	3.25	3.90	3.50	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00	0.40	11.43	
Major Importers																	
Eastern Europe	21.56	21.98	22.05	21.85	3.92	4.52	3.99	3.89	84.51	99.38	87.93	85.07	-2.86	-3.25	-14.32	-14.40	
Romania	7.15	6.90	6.82	6.82	3.58	4.59	3.71	3.60	25.55	31.69	25.30	24.50	-0.80	-3.16	-7.18	-22.68	
Yugoslavia	3.29	3.03	3.10	3.10	2.92	4.18	3.06	2.90	9.61	12.68	9.50	9.00	-0.50	-5.26	-3.68	-29.02	
European Union	2.10	2.10	2.00	2.00	3.62	4.52	3.75	3.75	7.60	9.50	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	-2.00	-21.05	
	4.10	4.28	4.13	4.13	8.50	9.04	8.47	8.52	34.79	38.67	34.92	35.16	0.24	0.69	-3.51	-9.07	
France	1.72	1.84	1.80	1.80	8.41	9.13	8.33	8.33	14.43	16.80	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	-1.80	-10.71	
Italy	1.02	1.04	0.96	0.97	9.33	9.79	9.58	9.79	9.55	10.14	9.20	9.50	0.30	3.26	-0.64	-6.28	
Mexico	8.23	7.40	8.00	8.00	2.30	2.43	2.31	2.31	18.92	18.00	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	2.78	
FSU-12	2.00	3.32	3.04	2.84	2.37	3.18	2.89	2.29	4.73	10.56	8.79	6.49	-2.30	-26.18	-4.07	-38.56	
Russia	0.62	0.85	0.80	0.80	1.78	3.18	3.13	1.75	1.10	2.70	2.50	1.40	-1.10	-44.00	-1.30	-48.15	
Ukraine	0.67	1.65	1.40	1.20	2.74	3.21	2.86	2.50	1.84	5.30	4.00	3.00	-1.00	-25.00	-2.30	-43.40	
Other W. Europe	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	8.96	8.80	8.60	8.60	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-2.27	
Others	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.05	4.49	4.48	4.41	4.41	0.29	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-19.12	
Other Foreign																	
China	81.91	77.83	81.89	81.54	2.96	2.71	2.89	2.90	242.45	210.63	236.60	236.37	-0.23	-0.10	25.74	12.22	
Brazil	24.50	23.78	24.25	24.25	5.20	4.39	5.03	5.03	127.47	104.30	122.00	122.00	0.00	0.00	17.70	16.97	
India	13.88	11.60	13.50	13.20	2.61	2.67	2.59	2.65	36.16	31.00	35.00	35.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	12.90	
Canada	6.25	6.15	6.20	6.20	1.70	1.59	1.61	1.61	10.61	9.80	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.04	
	1.06	1.05	1.10	1.10	6.98	6.84	6.82	6.82	7.38	7.18	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00	0.32	4.46	
Indonesia	3.20	3.20	3.30	3.30	1.86	1.78	1.82	1.82	5.95	5.70	6.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.26	
Philippines	2.72	2.40	2.75	2.75	1.55	1.48	1.53	1.53	4.22	3.55	4.20	4.20	0.00	0.00	0.65	18.31	
Egypt	0.88	0.84	0.94	0.94	6.65	7.18	6.74	6.74	5.83	6.01	6.30	6.30	0.00	0.00	0.29	4.83	
Zimbabwe	1.64	1.23	1.45	1.45	1.10	1.22	1.31	1.31	1.80	1.50	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.40	26.67	
Others	27.79	27.59	28.40	28.36	1.55	1.51	1.54	1.53	43.04	41.59	43.70	43.47	-0.23	-0.51	1.88	4.52	

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TABLE 6
Barley Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	66.34	65.30	60.78	61.41	2.32	2.37	2.41	2.37	153.84	154.46	146.52	145.51	-1.01	-0.69	-8.94	-5.79
United States	2.74	2.60	2.46	2.46	3.15	3.14	3.33	3.31	8.62	8.15	8.19	8.15	-0.03	-0.40	0.00	0.00
Total Foreign	63.60	62.70	58.32	58.95	2.28	2.33	2.37	2.33	145.22	146.31	138.33	137.36	-0.97	-0.70	-8.94	-6.11
European Union	11.38	11.84	11.59	11.47	4.55	4.44	4.52	4.65	51.72	52.55	52.40	53.35	0.95	1.81	0.80	1.52
Denmark	0.74	0.72	0.74	0.74	5.36	5.40	5.27	5.27	3.95	3.89	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.33
France	1.53	1.68	1.60	1.60	6.25	6.06	5.94	6.25	9.54	10.19	9.50	10.00	0.50	5.26	-0.19	-1.85
Germany	2.21	2.28	2.19	2.18	5.47	5.88	6.12	5.98	12.07	13.40	13.40	13.00	-0.40	-2.99	-0.40	-2.98
Italy	0.36	0.34	0.34	0.34	3.76	3.25	3.68	3.68	1.35	1.09	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.16	14.68
Spain	3.53	3.71	3.70	3.59	2.72	2.32	2.57	2.92	9.60	8.60	9.50	10.50	1.00	10.53	1.90	22.09
United Kingdom	1.27	1.33	1.25	1.27	6.14	5.91	6.00	5.79	7.78	7.85	7.50	7.35	-0.15	-2.00	-0.50	-6.37
FSU-12	20.54	20.98	16.72	17.52	1.35	1.63	1.55	1.38	27.76	34.09	25.97	24.27	-1.70	-6.55	-9.83	-28.82
Russia	11.85	12.60	10.00	10.00	1.34	1.65	1.40	1.25	15.90	20.80	14.00	12.50	-1.50	-10.71	-8.30	-39.90
Ukraine	3.43	3.70	3.20	4.00	1.67	2.00	2.19	1.75	5.73	7.40	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.40	-5.41
Kazakstan	3.60	3.20	2.10	2.10	0.75	0.81	0.86	0.76	2.70	2.60	1.80	1.60	-0.20	-11.11	-1.00	-38.46
Baltic States	0.81	0.83	0.83	0.83	2.30	2.33	2.33	2.33	1.87	1.94	1.93	1.93	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.52
Eastern Europe	3.31	3.65	3.61	3.55	2.92	3.29	3.14	3.16	9.69	12.00	11.31	11.21	-0.10	-0.88	-0.79	-6.59
Poland	1.13	1.24	1.20	1.20	3.04	3.11	3.17	3.17	3.44	3.87	3.80	3.80	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-1.71
Czech Rep.	0.60	0.65	0.64	0.58	3.77	3.84	3.75	3.97	2.26	2.49	2.40	2.30	-0.10	-4.17	-0.18	-7.44
Romania	0.50	0.62	0.70	0.70	2.22	3.06	2.43	2.43	1.11	1.89	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	-0.19	-10.01
Canada	4.89	4.70	4.35	4.35	3.18	2.90	2.99	2.99	15.56	13.65	13.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	-0.65	-4.76
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.22	4.49	4.15	3.91	4.18	1.03	0.93	0.90	0.93	0.03	3.00	-0.01	-0.75
Norway	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	3.83	3.54	3.43	3.43	0.67	0.62	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-3.23
Turkey	3.65	3.70	3.60	3.60	1.97	1.97	2.17	2.17	7.20	7.30	7.80	7.80	0.00	0.00	0.50	6.85
Australia	3.41	3.26	3.00	3.00	2.00	1.81	1.87	1.87	6.81	5.92	5.60	5.60	0.00	0.00	-0.32	-5.36
China	1.30	1.30	1.20	1.20	3.08	3.08	3.17	2.92	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.50	-0.30	-7.89	-0.50	-12.50
Morocco	2.43	2.00	2.30	2.30	1.58	0.66	0.87	0.87	3.83	1.32	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.68	51.06
India	0.82	0.76	0.85	0.85	1.83	1.89	2.00	2.00	1.51	1.44	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.26	18.38
Others	10.83	9.46	10.04	10.06	1.32	1.18	1.19	1.20	14.24	11.17	11.94	12.09	0.15	1.26	0.92	8.22

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TABLE 7
Oats Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	17.69	16.97	16.50	16.63	1.73	1.82	1.74	1.73	30.59	30.81	28.66	28.79	0.14	0.48	-2.02	-6.55
United States	1.09	1.18	1.19	1.19	2.07	2.17	2.24	2.16	2.25	2.56	2.66	2.57	-0.09	-3.27	0.02	0.63
Total Foreign	16.60	15.79	15.32	15.44	1.71	1.79	1.70	1.70	28.34	28.26	26.00	26.22	0.23	0.87	-2.03	-7.20
FSU-12	8.17	7.79	7.12	7.25	1.23	1.47	1.26	1.24	10.03	11.48	8.98	9.01	0.03	0.33	-2.47	-21.51
Russia	6.93	6.50	6.00	6.00	1.20	1.45	1.17	1.17	8.30	9.40	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-2.40	-25.53
Ukraine	0.48	0.55	0.50	0.63	1.51	1.82	2.00	1.76	0.73	1.00	1.00	1.10	0.10	10.00	0.10	10.00
Belarus	0.30	0.34	0.30	0.30	2.33	2.06	2.33	2.33	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.04	2.13	2.13	2.13	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.19
Maj. Foreign Exporters	3.02	2.65	2.73	2.73	2.11	2.00	2.07	2.07	6.37	5.29	5.65	5.65	0.00	0.00	0.37	6.91
Canada	1.68	1.50	1.65	1.65	2.59	2.32	2.48	2.48	4.36	3.49	4.10	4.10	0.00	0.00	0.62	17.65
Australia	1.09	0.85	0.80	0.80	1.56	1.53	1.50	1.50	1.70	1.30	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-7.69
Argentina	0.25	0.30	0.28	0.28	1.24	1.67	1.27	1.27	0.31	0.50	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-30.00
Other Foreign	5.62	5.56	5.68	5.69	2.29	2.23	2.16	2.20	12.87	12.39	12.27	12.52	0.25	2.00	0.12	0.99
China	0.50	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.20	0.89	1.18	1.18	0.60	0.40	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.25	62.50
European Union	1.94	1.99	1.92	1.93	3.56	3.34	3.27	3.37	6.89	6.63	6.27	6.50	0.23	3.67	-0.14	-2.05
France	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13	4.41	4.24	4.38	4.62	0.62	0.56	0.57	0.60	0.03	5.26	0.04	6.38
Germany	0.30	0.31	0.26	0.26	5.32	5.16	4.94	4.94	1.61	1.60	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-18.70
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	2.46	2.01	2.00	2.00	0.35	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.06
Finland	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.38	3.37	3.37	3.38	3.42	1.26	1.24	1.25	1.30	0.05	4.00	0.06	4.59
Sweden	0.28	0.32	0.30	0.30	4.32	4.05	4.00	4.00	1.20	1.28	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.07	-5.88
Eastern Europe	1.16	1.15	1.17	1.16	2.19	2.33	2.25	2.24	2.54	2.68	2.63	2.60	-0.03	-1.33	-0.08	-3.06
Czech Rep.	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.06	3.24	3.17	3.21	3.17	0.21	0.25	0.23	0.19	-0.04	-15.56	-0.06	-23.08
Poland	0.63	0.63	0.65	0.65	2.53	2.60	2.54	2.54	1.58	1.63	1.65	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.23
Yugoslavia	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.85	1.85	1.84	1.84	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-4.17
Norway	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	4.18	3.59	3.37	3.37	0.40	0.34	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-6.16
Turkey	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	1.72	1.79	1.72	1.72	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	1.41	1.37	1.43	1.43	0.66	0.62	0.63	0.63	0.93	0.85	0.90	0.90	-0.00	-0.00	0.06	6.48

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TABLE 8
Rye Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month	
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	From last month	From last year
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	10.76	10.40	10.43	2.06	2.35	2.18	22.23	24.42	22.68	-0.17	-0.73
United States	0.14	0.14	0.17	1.64	1.64	1.58	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.00	0.00
Total Foreign	10.62	10.26	10.26	2.07	2.36	2.19	22.00	24.19	22.41	-0.17	-0.74
FSU-12	5.96	5.67	5.58	1.51	1.94	1.55	9.00	11.02	8.67	0.20	2.31
Russia	4.13	4.00	4.00	1.43	1.88	1.38	5.90	7.50	5.50	0.00	0.00
Ukraine	0.63	0.70	0.60	1.75	1.93	2.00	1.10	1.35	1.20	0.20	16.67
Belarus	1.05	0.89	0.90	1.81	2.36	2.11	1.90	2.10	1.90	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.23	0.24	0.24	1.98	2.08	2.04	0.46	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00
Major Exporter											
Canada	0.16	0.16	0.20	1.91	1.94	2.00	0.31	0.30	0.39	0.00	0.00
Other Foreign	4.27	4.20	4.24	2.86	2.95	3.03	12.22	12.38	12.86	-0.37	-2.84
Eastern Europe	2.66	2.55	2.54	2.32	2.33	2.36	6.16	5.93	6.00	0.00	0.00
Hungary	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.43	2.00	1.79	0.10	0.14	0.13	0.00	0.00
Poland	2.42	2.30	2.30	2.34	2.31	2.35	5.65	5.30	5.40	0.00	0.00
Czech Rep.	0.06	0.08	0.08	3.19	3.41	3.47	0.20	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00
European Union	1.32	1.33	1.39	4.30	4.53	4.62	5.68	6.03	6.44	-0.35	-5.44
Denmark	0.07	0.08	0.08	4.76	5.39	5.00	0.34	0.45	0.40	0.00	0.00
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	4.59	4.40	4.56	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00
Germany	0.81	0.84	0.90	5.21	5.43	5.56	4.21	4.58	5.00	-0.35	-7.00
Spain	0.17	0.15	0.15	1.74	1.48	1.50	0.30	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00
Austria	0.05	0.06	0.06	2.96	3.63	3.64	0.15	0.21	0.20	0.00	0.00
Sweden	0.03	0.03	0.04	5.52	5.17	5.00	0.18	0.15	0.18	0.00	0.00
Turkey	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.39	1.39	1.39	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Others	0.11	0.14	0.13	1.15	1.16	1.40	0.13	0.16	0.16	-0.02	-8.52
										0.09	30.00
										0.12	0.95
										0.06	1.04
										-0.02	-10.71
										0.10	1.89
										0.00	0.39
										0.05	0.88
										-0.05	-11.70
										-0.00	-0.97
										0.07	1.53
										0.00	0.00
										-0.01	-3.38
										0.02	16.67
										0.00	0.00
										0.00	0.00
										0.00	1.90

TABLE 9
Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World United States Total Foreign India China Mexico Nigeria Sudan Argentina Australia Ethiopia Colombia Venezuela Egypt Yemen Tanzania Niger South Africa Thailand Others	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	45.08	42.36	41.78	41.56	1.55	1.48	1.46	1.47	69.71	62.69	60.88	60.90	0.02	0.03	-1.79	-2.85
	4.82	3.80	3.29	3.17	4.24	4.37	4.06	4.23	20.40	16.59	13.34	13.43	0.09	0.68	-3.16	-19.07
	40.26	38.56	38.50	38.38	1.22	1.20	1.24	1.24	49.32	46.10	47.54	47.47	-0.08	-0.16	1.37	2.98
	11.57	11.20	11.50	11.50	0.96	0.80	0.87	0.87	11.09	9.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	11.11
	1.29	1.23	1.23	1.23	4.39	4.07	4.47	4.47	5.68	5.00	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.50	10.00
	2.32	1.80	2.00	2.00	2.95	3.33	3.15	3.15	6.86	6.00	6.30	6.30	0.00	0.00	0.30	5.00
	6.45	6.50	6.60	6.60	1.02	1.08	1.05	1.05	6.60	7.00	6.90	6.90	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-1.43
	6.60	5.70	5.00	5.00	0.64	0.60	0.74	0.74	4.20	3.40	3.70	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.30	8.82
	0.68	0.79	0.75	0.75	3.70	4.84	4.00	4.00	2.50	3.80	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	-0.80	-21.05
	0.56	0.56	0.60	0.60	2.15	1.89	2.00	2.00	1.21	1.07	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.14	12.68
	1.85	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.08	1.11	1.11	1.11	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.10	0.06	0.04	0.04	3.05	2.50	3.00	3.00	0.29	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-20.00
	0.20	0.26	0.25	0.25	2.16	1.56	1.63	1.63	0.44	0.41	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.44
	0.14	0.16	0.16	0.16	4.35	4.91	4.97	4.97	0.60	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.52
	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.67	0.63	0.65	0.65	1.32	0.80	1.00	1.00	0.88	0.50	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.15	30.00
1.50	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.27	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0.16	0.13	0.14	0.14	2.20	2.14	2.14	2.14	0.36	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	7.14
0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.57	5.74	5.78	5.66	1.00	0.98	0.97	0.98	5.57	5.65	5.63	5.55	5.55	-0.08	-1.33	-0.10	-1.68

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TABLE 10
Rice Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	149.66	148.22	149.78	149.64	3.76	3.84	3.84	3.82	380.04	384.63	387.91	386.27	-1.64	-0.42	1.64	0.43
United States	1.13	1.23	1.29	1.29	6.86	6.61	6.64	6.25	5.45	5.84	6.17	5.80	-0.37	-5.98	-0.04	-0.68
Total Foreign	148.52	146.99	148.49	148.35	3.74	3.82	3.81	3.80	374.59	378.79	381.74	380.47	-1.27	-0.33	1.68	0.44
Major Exporters	24.08	24.18	24.25	24.30	2.91	2.95	2.97	2.98	44.97	45.86	46.30	46.50	0.20	0.43	0.64	1.39
Vietnam	7.05	7.10	7.15	7.15	3.87	3.80	3.81	3.81	18.00	17.80	18.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	1.12
Thailand	9.18	9.27	9.20	9.25	2.26	2.42	2.40	2.42	13.66	14.80	14.60	14.80	0.20	1.37	0.00	0.00
Burma	5.60	5.49	5.60	5.60	2.77	2.80	2.86	2.86	9.00	8.90	9.30	9.30	0.00	0.00	0.40	4.49
Pakistan	2.25	2.32	2.30	2.30	2.87	2.83	2.87	2.87	4.31	4.36	4.40	4.40	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.82
Major Importers	15.67	15.31	15.89	15.90	4.12	4.11	4.14	4.15	43.18	42.07	43.95	44.03	0.08	0.18	1.95	4.64
Indonesia	11.14	10.80	11.40	11.40	4.43	4.40	4.45	4.45	32.08	30.90	33.00	33.00	0.00	0.00	2.10	6.80
South Korea	1.05	1.05	1.04	1.04	6.85	7.01	6.76	6.76	5.32	5.45	5.20	5.20	0.00	0.00	-0.25	-4.59
European Union	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.42	5.94	6.19	6.04	6.34	1.58	1.67	1.65	1.73	0.08	4.86	0.05	3.23
Iran	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nigeria	1.66	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.96	1.87	1.92	1.92	1.95	1.85	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.70
Other Foreign	108.77	107.51	108.35	108.15	4.12	4.22	4.20	4.19	286.44	290.85	291.49	289.94	-1.55	-0.53	-0.91	-0.31
China	31.41	31.77	31.50	31.30	6.21	6.32	6.35	6.30	136.57	140.49	140.00	138.00	-2.00	-1.43	-2.49	-1.77
India	43.28	42.20	42.50	42.50	2.82	2.97	2.95	2.95	81.31	83.50	83.50	83.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bangladesh	10.41	10.62	10.80	10.80	2.72	2.58	2.64	2.64	18.88	18.23	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	0.77	4.25
Japan	1.98	1.95	1.78	1.78	6.54	6.42	6.42	6.42	9.41	9.12	8.30	8.30	0.00	0.00	-0.82	-9.02
Brazil	3.57	3.20	3.70	3.70	2.66	2.67	2.65	2.65	6.46	5.80	6.66	6.66	0.00	0.00	0.86	14.90
Philippines	3.91	3.55	3.85	3.85	2.86	2.80	2.86	2.86	7.27	6.45	7.15	7.15	0.00	0.00	0.70	10.85
Egypt	0.59	0.67	0.63	0.63	8.29	8.22	7.94	8.05	2.99	3.75	2.96	3.45	0.50	16.75	-0.30	-8.00
Taiwan	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.36	5.55	5.62	5.04	5.56	1.42	1.47	1.45	1.41	-0.04	-2.90	-0.06	-4.09
FSU-12	0.48	0.45	0.45	0.45	2.24	2.64	2.67	2.67	0.70	0.76	0.77	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.05
Russia	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.36	2.07	2.07	2.07	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Australia	0.17	0.14	0.15	0.15	8.36	9.36	8.39	8.39	0.99	0.95	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-5.26
Others	12.62	12.60	12.64	12.64	3.02	3.06	3.06	3.07	20.43	20.33	20.80	20.80	0.00	0.00	0.47	2.29

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TABLE 11
Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/ Total Foreign 1/ Copra Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	261.08	286.97	288.32	288.09	-0.23	-0.08	1.12	0.39
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	186.25	202.73	201.75	202.05	0.31	0.15	-0.68	-0.33
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.82	5.51	5.43	5.38	-0.05	-0.92	-0.13	-2.31
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.31	5.39	5.47	5.57	0.10	1.83	0.18	3.28
Major Oilseeds 2/ United States 2/	159.40	166.96	169.95	169.67	1.57	1.65	1.63	1.63	249.95	276.07	277.42	277.14	-0.28	-0.10	1.07	0.39
	32.58	35.66	35.91	35.65	2.30	2.36	2.41	2.41	74.83	84.24	86.58	86.04	-0.54	-0.62	1.80	2.13
Foreign Oilseeds 2/ South America	126.82	131.30	134.04	134.02	1.38	1.46	1.42	1.43	175.12	191.83	190.85	191.11	0.26	0.13	-0.73	-0.38
	25.27	27.70	27.83	27.78	1.96	2.22	2.07	2.08	49.43	61.40	57.56	57.77	0.21	0.36	-3.62	-5.90
Brazil	12.61	13.97	13.97	13.97	2.18	2.28	2.17	2.17	27.45	31.83	30.35	30.35	0.00	0.00	-1.48	-4.65
Argentina	10.26	11.09	11.20	11.15	1.70	2.25	1.99	2.02	17.46	24.90	22.26	22.47	0.21	0.94	-2.43	-9.76
Paraguay	1.38	1.57	1.60	1.60	2.13	1.85	1.96	1.96	2.93	2.91	3.13	3.13	0.00	0.00	0.22	7.55
China	23.23	23.85	23.55	23.55	1.78	1.82	1.74	1.74	41.45	43.40	40.95	40.95	0.00	0.00	-2.45	-5.65
India	30.83	31.05	31.45	31.55	0.88	0.83	0.85	0.85	27.28	25.75	26.70	26.70	0.00	0.00	0.96	3.71
European Union	5.84	6.10	6.40	6.41	2.22	2.47	2.50	2.50	12.95	15.04	16.03	16.04	0.01	0.04	1.00	6.63
France	1.87	1.96	2.01	2.01	2.73	2.88	2.88	2.88	5.10	5.66	5.78	5.78	0.00	0.00	0.12	2.12
Italy	0.58	0.75	0.81	0.81	2.56	2.47	2.66	2.66	1.49	1.84	2.16	2.16	0.00	0.00	0.32	17.32
Germany	0.90	0.95	1.03	1.03	2.51	3.11	3.18	3.18	2.26	2.96	3.28	3.28	0.00	0.00	0.32	10.92
Spain	1.17	1.14	1.17	1.17	1.17	1.42	1.41	1.41	1.38	1.62	1.64	1.64	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.55
United Kingdom	0.41	0.47	0.51	0.51	3.41	3.23	3.24	3.24	1.41	1.53	1.65	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.13	8.20
FSU-12	9.84	9.25	10.01	10.01	0.86	0.98	0.97	0.98	8.44	9.09	9.73	9.81	0.07	0.77	0.71	7.86
Russia	4.55	4.10	4.69	4.69	0.69	0.78	0.79	0.79	3.15	3.18	3.70	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.52	16.28
Ukraine	2.15	2.04	2.14	2.14	0.99	1.15	1.14	1.14	2.13	2.35	2.45	2.45	0.00	0.00	0.10	4.39
Uzbekistan	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.35	1.55	1.47	1.47	2.01	2.30	2.20	2.20	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-4.35
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.58	0.82	0.92	0.92	0.26	0.37	0.44	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.07	17.57
Canada	4.35	5.90	6.39	6.39	1.68	1.52	1.51	1.51	7.28	8.97	9.64	9.64	0.00	0.00	0.68	7.53
Indonesia	1.83	1.83	1.93	1.93	1.34	1.31	1.27	1.30	2.45	2.41	2.46	2.51	0.05	2.04	0.10	4.20
Pakistan	3.66	3.50	3.43	3.39	1.00	1.01	1.11	1.11	3.67	3.53	3.82	3.77	-0.05	-1.26	0.24	6.71
Eastern Europe	3.05	2.86	3.29	3.29	1.53	1.49	1.65	1.65	4.66	4.26	5.41	5.41	0.00	0.00	1.15	26.87
Poland	0.28	0.32	0.39	0.39	1.59	1.88	2.31	2.31	0.45	0.60	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.30	51.26
Romania	0.99	0.84	1.03	1.03	1.31	1.17	1.30	1.30	1.30	0.98	1.34	1.34	0.00	0.00	0.36	36.84
Hungary	0.57	0.54	0.58	0.58	1.67	1.29	1.66	1.66	0.95	0.70	0.96	0.96	0.00	0.00	0.27	38.13
Turkey	1.37	1.29	1.30	1.30	1.41	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.93	1.95	1.97	1.97	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.03
Philippines	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.87	0.93	0.95	0.95	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.66
Mexico	0.38	0.41	0.43	0.43	1.42	1.55	1.50	1.50	0.55	0.63	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.54
Others	17.12	17.52	17.97	17.95	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	14.99	15.36	15.88	15.85	-0.04	-0.23	0.48	3.14

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 12

Soybean Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production				
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year		
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent	
		Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	63.15	69.64	69.85	69.79	2.09	2.25	2.21	2.21	131.68	156.50	154.05	153.95	-0.09	-0.06	-2.55	-1.63	
United States	25.66	28.28	29.02	28.96	2.53	2.62	2.65	2.65	64.84	74.22	77.02	76.88	-0.14	-0.19	2.65	3.57	
Total Foreign	37.49	41.36	40.83	40.83	1.78	1.99	1.89	1.89	66.84	82.28	77.03	77.08	0.05	0.06	-5.20	-6.32	
Major Exporters																	
Brazil	19.20	21.10	20.80	20.80	2.12	2.47	2.28	2.28	40.77	52.20	47.40	47.40	0.00	0.00	-4.80	-9.20	
Argentina	11.80	13.00	13.00	13.00	2.27	2.38	2.27	2.27	26.80	31.00	29.50	29.50	0.00	0.00	-1.50	-4.84	
Paraguay	6.20	6.80	6.50	6.50	1.81	2.72	2.31	2.31	11.20	18.50	15.00	15.00	0.00	0.00	-3.50	-18.92	
	1.20	1.30	1.30	1.30	2.31	2.08	2.23	2.23	2.77	2.70	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00	0.20	7.41	
Other Foreign																	
China	18.29	20.26	20.03	20.03	1.43	1.48	1.48	1.48	26.07	30.08	29.62	29.68	0.05	0.17	-0.40	-1.33	
India	7.47	8.50	8.00	8.00	1.77	1.73	1.75	1.75	13.22	14.73	14.00	14.00	0.00	0.00	-0.73	-4.96	
Canada	5.00	5.60	5.60	5.60	0.82	0.96	0.93	0.93	4.10	5.35	5.20	5.20	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-2.80	
Indonesia	0.86	1.05	0.98	0.98	2.52	2.57	2.62	2.62	2.17	2.70	2.55	2.55	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-5.56	
Eastern Europe	1.18	1.15	1.25	1.25	1.24	1.22	1.16	1.20	1.46	1.40	1.45	1.50	0.05	3.45	0.10	7.14	
European Union	0.20	0.17	0.25	0.25	1.69	2.17	2.02	2.02	0.34	0.36	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.14	39.94	
FSU-12	0.34	0.46	0.54	0.54	3.39	3.44	3.43	3.43	1.14	1.57	1.84	1.84	0.00	0.00	0.27	17.01	
Russia	0.55	0.46	0.50	0.50	0.62	0.74	0.72	0.72	0.34	0.34	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.02	6.53	
Ukraine	0.49	0.40	0.44	0.44	0.58	0.69	0.68	0.68	0.28	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	7.14	
Mexico	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.80	1.29	1.00	1.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.11	
Thailand	0.05	0.12	0.12	0.12	1.17	1.47	1.46	1.46	0.06	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
North Korea	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	1.41	1.25	1.30	1.30	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.69	
Japan	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	1.23	1.08	1.23	1.23	0.40	0.35	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.05	14.29	
Bolivia	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.71	1.71	1.71	1.71	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
South Korea	0.55	0.63	0.63	0.63	1.83	2.00	1.98	1.98	1.00	1.26	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.79	
Colombia	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.63	1.56	1.60	1.60	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.56	
Others	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	2.00	1.67	2.00	2.00	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.01	20.00	
	1.31	1.35	1.38	1.38	0.87	0.89	0.88	0.88	1.13	1.19	1.21	1.21	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.51	

TABLE 13
Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	33.72	33.31	32.69	32.51	1.02	1.04	1.02	1.02	34.35	34.64	33.49	33.22	-0.27	-0.81	-1.42	-4.09
United States	5.21	5.37	4.53	4.33	1.24	1.17	1.13	1.12	6.48	6.29	5.13	4.86	-0.27	-5.27	-1.44	-22.81
Total Foreign	28.51	27.94	28.16	28.18	0.98	1.01	1.01	1.01	27.87	28.35	28.37	28.37	-0.00	-0.00	0.02	0.07
China	4.72	4.50	4.50	4.50	1.60	1.84	1.69	1.69	7.56	8.28	7.60	7.60	0.00	0.00	-0.68	-8.21
FSU-12	2.50	2.46	2.54	2.53	1.08	1.25	1.22	1.26	2.71	3.09	3.11	3.18	0.08	2.42	0.09	3.05
Uzbekistan	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.35	1.55	1.47	1.47	2.01	2.30	2.20	2.20	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-4.35
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.58	0.82	0.92	0.92	0.26	0.37	0.44	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.07	17.57
India	9.17	8.85	8.95	9.05	0.64	0.58	0.59	0.59	5.90	5.10	5.30	5.30	0.00	0.00	0.21	4.02
Pakistan	3.15	2.96	2.90	2.90	1.01	1.02	1.14	1.14	3.19	3.00	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00	0.30	9.85
Brazil	0.70	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.71	0.76	0.79	0.79	0.49	0.65	0.67	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.02	3.08
Turkey	0.74	0.71	0.70	0.70	1.58	1.53	1.60	1.60	1.18	1.09	1.12	1.12	0.00	0.00	0.03	3.23
African Franc Zone	1.91	2.24	2.27	2.27	0.72	0.72	0.71	0.71	1.38	1.61	1.60	1.61	0.00	0.25	-0.01	-0.37
Australia	0.40	0.43	0.39	0.43	2.13	2.12	2.05	1.98	0.84	0.92	0.80	0.84	0.04	5.00	-0.08	-8.89
Egypt	0.39	0.37	0.36	0.30	1.52	1.28	1.39	1.40	0.59	0.48	0.50	0.42	-0.08	-16.00	-0.06	-12.50
Argentina	0.88	0.80	0.80	0.75	0.64	0.63	0.83	0.83	0.56	0.50	0.66	0.62	-0.04	-6.06	0.12	24.00
Paraguay	0.11	0.20	0.23	0.23	0.64	0.60	0.62	0.62	0.07	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.02	16.67
Greece	0.42	0.39	0.40	0.40	1.13	1.53	1.48	1.48	0.48	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.67
Syria	0.22	0.25	0.27	0.27	2.39	2.90	2.52	2.52	0.53	0.73	0.68	0.68	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-6.46
Mexico	0.25	0.20	0.22	0.22	1.50	1.65	1.52	1.52	0.37	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.82
Colombia	0.09	0.05	0.06	0.06	1.21	1.30	1.42	1.42	0.10	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.43
Sudan	0.28	0.27	0.30	0.30	0.82	0.79	0.87	0.87	0.23	0.21	0.26	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.05	23.81
Others	2.60	2.41	2.44	2.44	0.66	0.66	0.67	0.67	1.71	1.58	1.63	1.63	0.00	0.00	0.04	2.78

TABLE 14
Peanut Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production						
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month						
	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	1996/97	1997/98	July	Aug.	From last month	From last year		
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent			
World	20.58	21.05	21.20	21.20	1.38	1.29	1.30	1.30	28.39	27.10	27.67	27.54	-0.12	-0.45	0.44	1.62
United States	0.56	0.57	0.58	0.58	2.98	2.81	2.92	2.74	1.66	1.60	1.70	1.58	-0.12	-7.28	-0.02	-1.56
Total Foreign	20.03	20.48	20.62	20.62	1.33	1.24	1.26	1.26	26.73	25.50	25.96	25.96	0.00	0.00	0.46	1.82
China	3.62	3.72	3.80	3.80	2.80	2.59	2.58	2.58	10.14	9.65	9.80	9.80	0.00	0.00	0.15	1.55
India	7.81	8.10	8.10	8.10	1.15	0.99	1.02	1.02	9.02	8.00	8.30	8.30	0.00	0.00	0.30	3.75
Indonesia	0.63	0.66	0.66	0.66	1.56	1.52	1.52	1.52	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senegal	0.92	0.79	0.78	0.78	0.70	0.70	0.71	0.71	0.65	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Burma	0.52	0.53	0.53	0.53	1.10	1.11	1.09	1.09	0.57	0.59	0.58	0.58	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.69
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.77	0.77	0.79	0.79	0.56	0.56	0.58	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.02	3.57
Argentina	0.28	0.39	0.40	0.40	1.09	1.67	1.50	1.50	0.30	0.65	0.60	0.60	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-7.69
Nigeria	0.65	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.33	0.35	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.14
Vietnam	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1.31	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.10	0.06	0.07	0.07	1.47	1.64	1.43	1.43	0.14	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.09
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Burkina Faso	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.80	0.83	0.84	0.84	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.00
Brazil	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.55	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Central African Rep.	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.94	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cameroon	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.07	1.04	1.04	1.04	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mexico	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	1.40	1.50	1.53	1.53	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.33
Gambia	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.72	0.85	0.80	0.80	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-6.25
Others	2.73	2.75	2.73	2.73	0.83	0.81	0.82	0.82	2.28	2.24	2.25	2.25	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.45

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 15
Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production		
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	From last month	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent	MMT Percent
World	19.81	19.60	21.12	21.08	1.21	1.24	1.25	23.91	23.78	26.08	26.28	0.20 0.77 2.50 10.50
United States	1.01	1.15	1.34	1.34	1.61	1.48	1.55	1.63	1.71	2.08	2.08	0.00 0.00 0.37 21.56
Total Foreign	18.79	18.44	19.78	19.74	1.19	1.20	1.23	22.28	22.08	24.00	24.21	0.20 0.84 2.13 9.64
FSU-12	6.48	6.06	6.67	6.67	0.80	0.90	0.90	5.18	5.46	6.03	6.03	0.00 0.00 0.57 10.42
Russia	3.89	3.58	4.10	4.10	0.71	0.79	0.80	2.77	2.83	3.30	3.30	0.00 0.00 0.47 16.57
Ukraine	2.11	2.00	2.10	2.10	0.99	1.15	1.14	2.10	2.30	2.40	2.40	0.00 0.00 0.10 4.35
Argentina	2.90	3.10	3.50	3.50	1.86	1.69	1.71	5.40	5.25	6.00	6.25	0.25 4.17 1.00 19.05
European Union	2.35	2.33	2.26	2.26	1.65	1.74	1.75	3.89	4.06	3.96	3.96	0.00 0.00 -0.10 -2.41
France	0.92	0.90	0.81	0.81	2.19	2.21	2.22	2.00	1.98	1.80	1.80	0.00 0.00 -0.18 -9.09
Spain	0.99	0.97	1.00	1.00	1.15	1.41	1.40	1.14	1.37	1.40	1.40	0.00 0.00 0.03 2.41
Italy	0.26	0.30	0.28	0.28	1.99	1.67	1.96	0.52	0.51	0.55	0.55	0.00 0.00 0.04 8.06
Eastern Europe	2.14	1.94	2.18	2.18	1.42	1.22	1.37	3.04	2.38	3.00	3.00	0.00 0.00 0.62 25.99
Hungary	0.48	0.45	0.48	0.48	1.68	1.22	1.67	0.80	0.55	0.80	0.80	0.00 0.00 0.26 46.79
Romania	0.91	0.78	0.91	0.91	1.30	1.10	1.21	1.18	0.86	1.10	1.10	0.00 0.00 0.24 28.21
Yugoslavia	0.23	0.20	0.22	0.22	1.87	1.65	1.82	0.43	0.33	0.40	0.40	0.00 0.00 0.07 21.21
Bulgaria	0.45	0.45	0.50	0.50	1.09	1.11	1.10	0.49	0.50	0.55	0.55	0.00 0.00 0.05 10.00
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.95	2.24	2.00	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.00 0.00 -0.00 -2.13
China	0.69	0.67	0.70	0.70	1.92	1.79	1.79	1.33	1.20	1.25	1.25	0.00 0.00 0.05 4.17
India	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.20	0.66	0.67	0.68	1.32	1.40	1.50	1.50	0.00 0.00 0.10 7.14
Turkey	0.55	0.50	0.52	0.52	1.09	1.44	1.35	0.60	0.72	0.70	0.70	0.00 0.00 -0.02 -2.78
South Africa	0.46	0.51	0.50	0.50	0.97	1.09	1.00	0.45	0.56	0.50	0.50	0.00 0.00 -0.06 -10.23
Australia	0.14	0.09	0.10	0.10	1.21	1.07	1.00	0.17	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00 0.00 0.00 2.04
Burma	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00
Others	0.87	0.90	0.90	0.87	0.88	0.86	0.85	0.76	0.77	0.78	0.73	-0.05 -6.14 -0.04 -4.55

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 16
Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production		
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.			From last month		
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj.	From last month	From last year	From last year
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent	MMT
World	22.14	23.36	25.09	1.43	1.46	1.44	31.61	34.05	36.14	0.01	0.02	2.10
United States	0.14	0.28	0.44	1.55	1.47	1.48	0.22	0.42	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.24
Total Foreign	22.00	23.08	24.65	1.43	1.46	1.44	31.39	33.63	35.49	0.01	0.02	1.86
												5.54
India	6.86	6.40	6.60	1.01	0.92	0.97	6.94	5.90	6.40	0.00	0.00	0.50
China	6.73	6.46	6.55	1.37	1.48	1.27	9.20	9.54	8.30	0.00	0.00	-1.24
Canada	3.45	4.80	5.35	1.47	1.29	1.31	5.06	6.20	7.00	0.00	0.00	0.80
European Union	2.65	2.81	3.10	2.76	3.08	3.06	7.33	8.65	9.49	0.01	0.06	0.85
France	0.87	0.97	1.10	3.32	3.51	3.36	2.87	3.40	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.30
Germany	0.85	0.91	1.00	2.52	3.14	3.20	2.15	2.87	3.20	0.00	0.00	0.33
United Kingdom	0.41	0.47	0.51	3.41	3.23	3.24	1.41	1.53	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.13
Denmark	0.11	0.10	0.12	2.37	2.82	2.75	0.25	0.29	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.04
Sweden	0.07	0.06	0.06	2.11	1.95	1.98	0.14	0.12	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eastern Europe	0.69	0.74	0.84	1.83	2.05	2.27	1.27	1.52	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.38
Poland	0.28	0.32	0.39	1.59	1.88	2.31	0.45	0.60	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.30
Czech Rep.	0.23	0.23	0.26	2.30	2.46	2.50	0.52	0.56	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.09
Australia	0.42	0.69	1.00	1.52	1.26	1.40	0.64	0.86	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.54
FSU-12	0.31	0.27	0.31	0.70	0.75	0.77	0.21	0.21	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.03
Russia	0.17	0.12	0.15	0.66	0.62	0.67	0.11	0.07	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.03
Pakistan	0.32	0.34	0.33	0.80	0.84	0.85	0.26	0.29	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.01
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.73	0.73	0.74	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.97	0.96	0.96	0.23	0.23	0.23	-0.00	-0.00	0.00

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 17
Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98	1998/99 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
			July	Aug.				
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.82	5.51	5.43	5.38	-0.05	-0.92	-0.13	-2.31
Philippines	2.25	2.15	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.15	-6.98
Indonesia	1.93	1.70	1.75	1.70	-0.05	-2.86	0.00	0.00
India	0.65	0.68	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.94
Mexico	0.21	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.87
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-9.37
Others	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PALM KERNEL								
World	5.31	5.39	5.47	5.57	0.10	1.83	0.18	3.28
Malaysia	2.63	2.57	2.65	2.65	0.00	0.00	0.08	3.11
Indonesia	1.59	1.70	1.70	1.80	0.10	5.88	0.10	5.88
Nigeria	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.35
Colombia	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.63
Thailand	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-23.36
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.11
Others	0.54	0.56	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.15
PALM OIL								
World	17.52	17.65	17.78	18.08	0.30	1.69	0.43	2.44
Malaysia	9.01	8.60	8.80	8.80	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.33
Indonesia	5.39	5.75	5.70	6.00	0.30	5.26	0.25	4.35
Nigeria	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	0.29	0.30	0.32	0.32	0.00	0.00	0.02	6.67
Colombia	0.41	0.44	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.27
Thailand	0.40	0.47	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-23.40
Zaire	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.20	0.23	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.03	11.11
Others	1.12	1.16	1.20	1.20	-0.00	-0.00	0.03	3.02

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 17-year record of the differences between the August projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the August projection and the final estimate have averaged 13.1 million tons (2.5 percent) and ranged from -32.1 to 19.5 million tons. The August projection has been below the final 9 times and above the final 8 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1996/97 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	2.5	13.1	-32.1	19.5	9	8
U.S.	2.0	1.3	-3.4	4.2	7	10
Foreign	2.7	12.4	-31.1	17.8	9	8
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	2.0	16.3	-45.9	26.9	12	5
U.S.	5.8	12.1	-21.8	31.4	12	5
Foreign	1.8	10.7	-28.8	13.8	9	8
RICE (Milled)						
World	2.2	7.3	-24.4	3.5	13	4
U.S.	5.0	0.3	-0.6	0.4	10	7
Foreign	2.3	7.4	-24.7	3.8	13	4
SOYBEANS						
World	3.0	3.4	-8.7	5.0	9	8
U.S.	4.6	2.5	-6.4	5.7	8	9
Foreign	5.9	3.1	-9.0	6.1	8	9
			---Million 480-lb. bales---			
COTTON						
World	3.9	3.2	-11.1	10.5	10	7
U.S.	5.9	0.9	-1.9	3.9	11	5
Foreign	4.3	2.9	-10.7	10.2	8	8
UNITED STATES			-----Million bushels-----			
CORN	6.3	431	-889	1,079	11	6
SORGHUM	6.6	45	-82	83	11	6
BARLEY	4.6	21	-63	67	7	10
OATS	6.6	19	-26	57	5	12

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1996/97 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 17 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

August 12, 1998



1 - CANADA

A drying trend that began in early July was initially beneficial for reproductive Prairie spring grains and oilseeds. Since late-July, however, western crops have experienced some stress due to heat and dryness. An early-August heat wave is advancing crop development and reportedly causing some pod shattering. Harvesting is already underway in southern growing areas.

2 - UNITED STATES

Drought intensified in the South-Central States, severely stressing livestock and dryland crops. In the Southeast, however, slightly cooler weather and improved rainfall eased crop stress and suppressed the wildfire threat. Meanwhile, Corn Belt temperatures remained mostly favorable for crops entering, and progressing through, reproduction. In addition, drier weather in the Corn Belt reduced pockets of excess moisture, although a few northern areas turned dry by month's end. Portions of the Mid-Atlantic region also turned unfavorably dry. In the northern Plains and Northwest, very warm conditions promoted small grain ripening and harvesting. Warm weather elsewhere in the West favored fieldwork and crop development. Late in the month, heavy rain fell on the central Plains, improving moisture for summer crops but causing localized flooding.

3 - SOUTH AMERICA

Near- to above-normal July rainfall increased soil moisture for germinating winter wheat across central Argentina and southern Brazil. However, topsoils are becoming dry in southern Buenos Aires, Argentina. Dry, warm July weather favored coffee and citrus harvesting in central Brazil, but early August rainfall caused some fieldwork delays.

4 - EUROPE

Winter grain and oilseed harvesting progressed northward in July, and was helped by favorable weather in most areas. Timely rains in western and northern Europe favored spring grain and summer crop development. Continued cool, wet weather in Scandinavia slowed winter grain maturation and spring-sown crop development. Although hot, dry weather in Mediterranean areas favored rapid winter grain harvesting, it increased the crop-water requirements of summer crops. A heat wave from July 21-August 5 in southern Romania, Serbia, and Bulgaria stressed summer crops in the filling stage.

5 - FSU-WESTERN

In July, persistent dryness and unrelenting heat in Russia favored winter grain harvesting but worsened conditions for summer crops which advanced through reproduction. Hot, dry weather intensified in southern and eastern Ukraine, stressing corn and sunflowers. Wet weather continued in the Baltics, Belarus, and northwestern Ukraine. Recently, cooler weather and scattered showers eased stress on crops in eastern Ukraine and Russia.

6 - FSU-NEWLANDS

Hot, dry weather in major spring grain producing areas of Kazakhstan and Russia accelerated crop development and lowered yield prospects.

7 - SOUTH ASIA

The southwest monsoon continued to bring abundant rain to primary grain, oilseed, and cotton areas. Flooding persisted in eastern rice areas, including Bangladesh. Local dry pockets in west-central India have raised some concern for soybeans and rice, but heavy rain in late-July soaked most primary oilseed and cotton area of west-central India.

8 - EASTERN ASIA

Along the Yangtze Valley, excessive showers in late-July caused flooding and possible damage to early rice and delayed late rice planting. Across the North China Plain and Manchuria, near- to slightly below-normal July rainfall mostly favored reproductive summer crops, but local areas experienced stressful conditions. Widespread early August rainfall boosted soil moisture for filling crops. Near-normal July rainfall maintained adequate moisture supplies for reproductive grains across the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA

Above-normal July rainfall boosted moisture supplies in western Thailand, while below-normal rainfall reduced moisture supplies in eastern Thailand. Much below-normal showers and warm weather stressed rainfed grains in northern Vietnam. Late July rainfall boosted moisture supplies in southern Vietnam. In the Philippines, below-normal July rainfall continued to stress grains and sugarcane, but widespread showers in early August reversed the trend. Near- to above-normal July rainfall favored oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and second-crop rice and corn in Java.

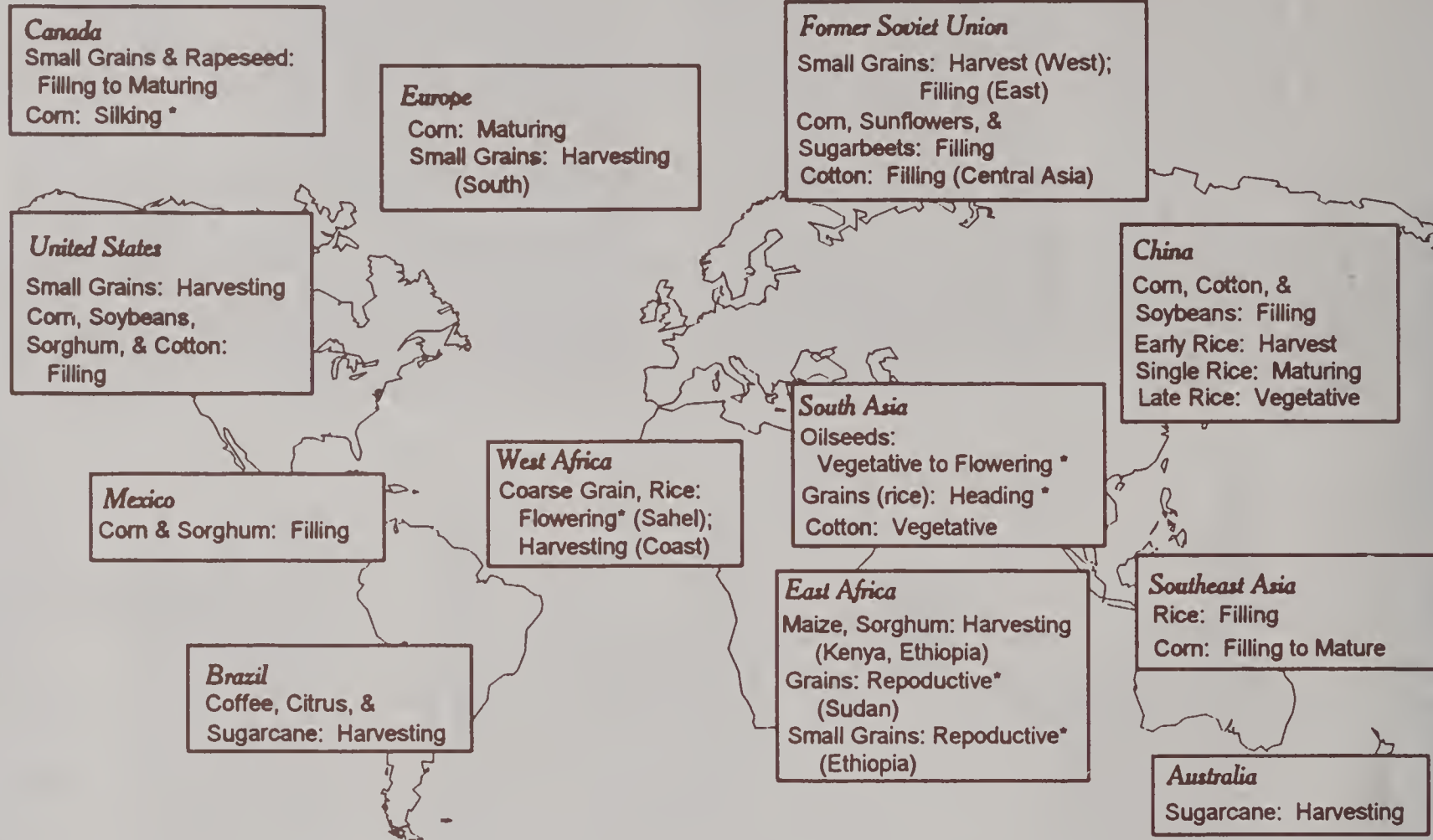
10 - AUSTRALIA

Moisture levels range from adequate to excessive for vegetative to semi-dormant wheat and barley. Localized flooding has occurred in northern New South Wales, increasing concerns about the potential for disease problems.

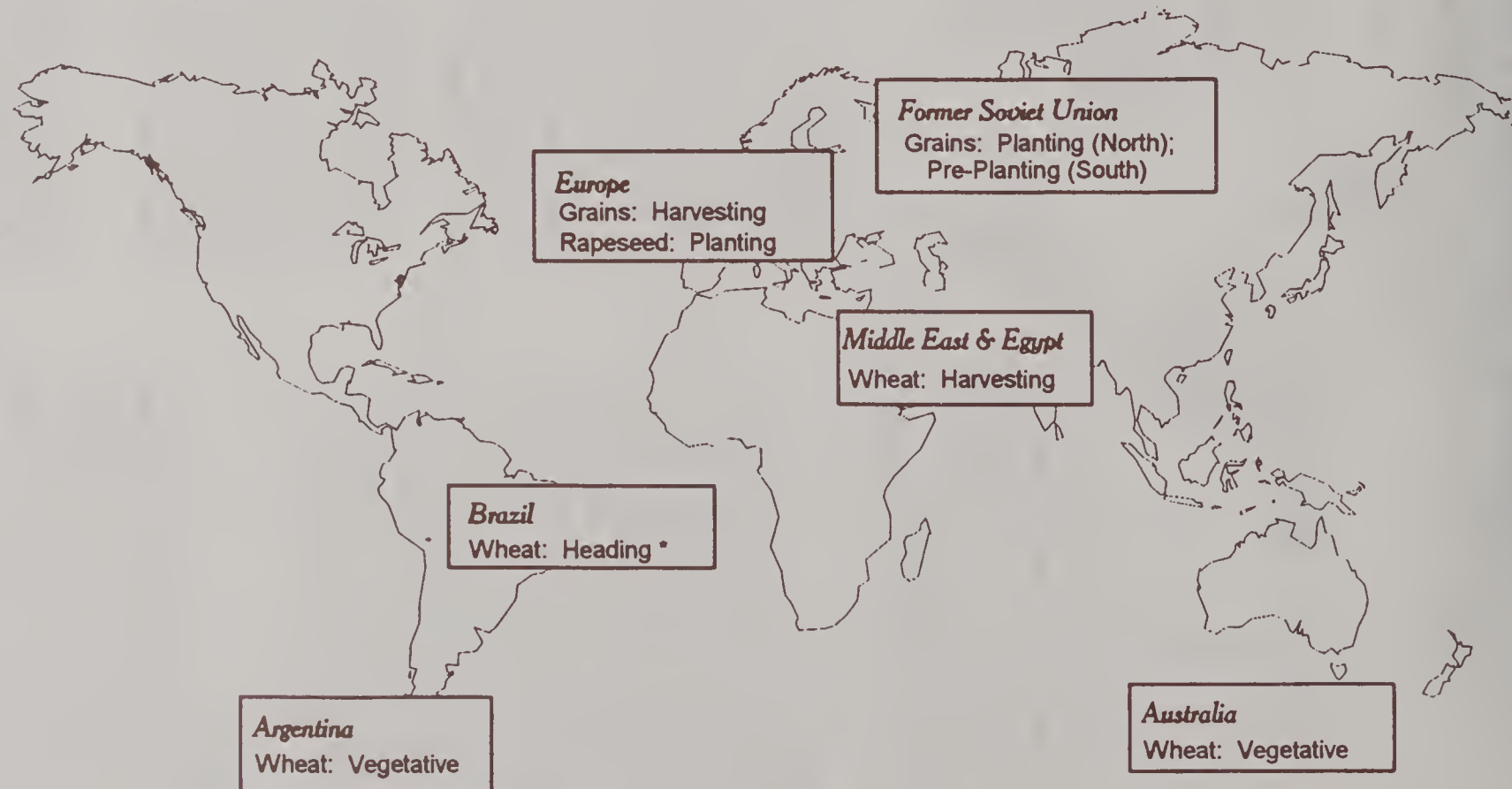
(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 720-7917.)

August normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops

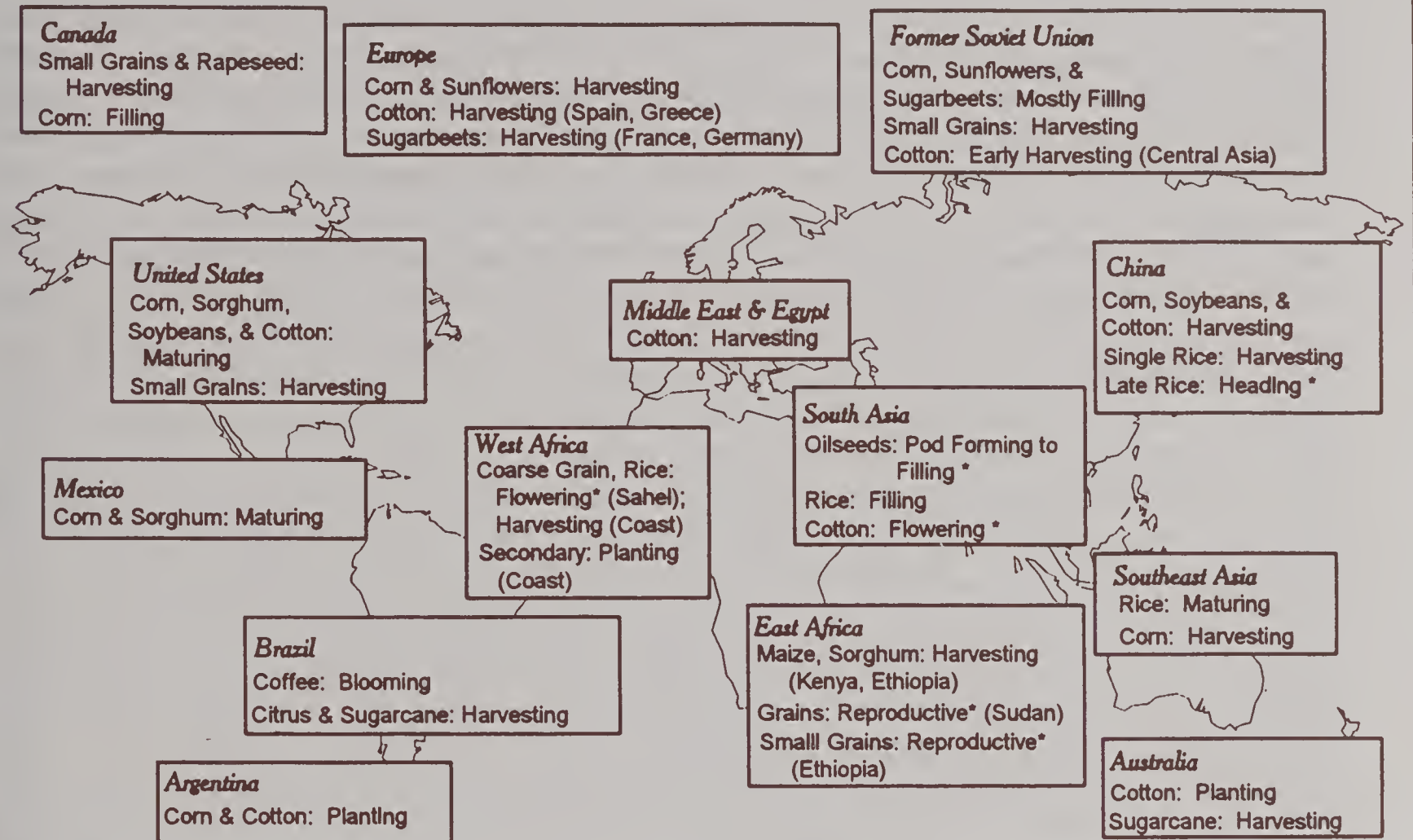


* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

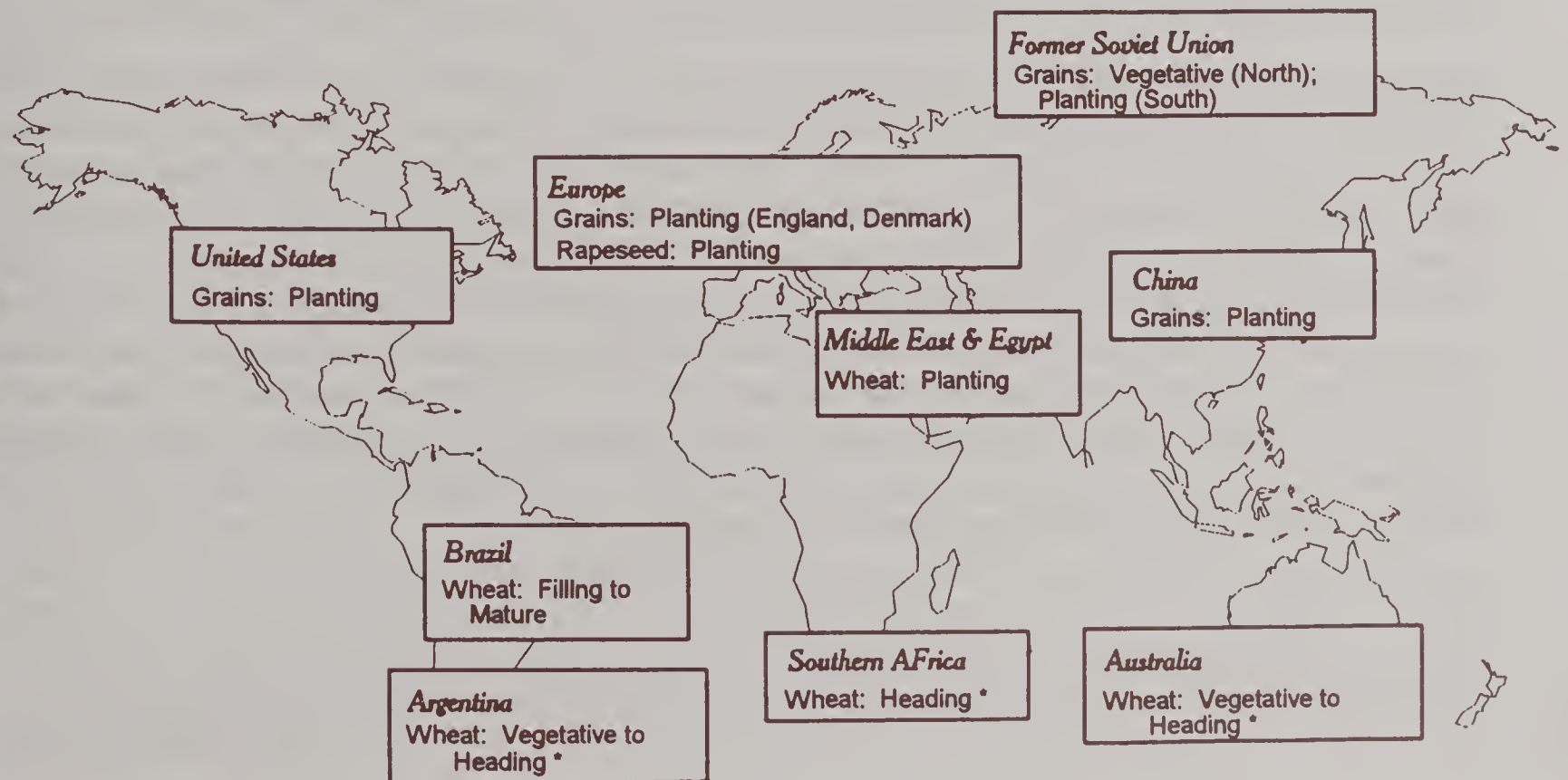
JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

September normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops



* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

WEATHER BRIEFS

INDIA: STRONG MONSOON CONTINUES

In June 1998, the southwest monsoon arrived in southern India on schedule, but showers associated with the phenomena were patchy and disorganized until later in the month. Planting of rainfed grains, oilseeds, and cotton was underway in much of the east and south by month's end. During early July 1998, the monsoon remained very active, bringing widespread, locally heavy showers to much of the region. The additional soil moisture maintained generally favorable prospects for grains, oilseeds, and cotton, but some areas experienced planting delays and flooding. In contrast, warmer and drier conditions continued over India's southern interior and much of Pakistan. Dryness in southern India was unfavorable for newly sown cotton and oilseeds. During July 12-18, locally heavy rains spanned the northern half of the region as the monsoon continued its northward trek. The abundant rain across India's northern rice and cotton areas continued to increase moisture reserves for early crop development. Showers reached northern Pakistan, also boosting moisture reserves for rice and cotton. However, a few areas, notably central India's primary soybean region, were too wet for normal development following weeks of copious rains. Very heavy rain flooded rice fields of Bangladesh. Warm, dry weather dominated India's southern interior for much of the week, although late-week showers brought some relief to vegetative grains, oilseeds and cotton. During July 19-25, a break in the monsoon brought warmer, drier weather to much of central and northern India. Grains, oilseed, and cotton planting was likely widespread in response to the reduction in rainfall. Moderate to heavy rain continued in the primary rice areas from eastern Uttar Pradesh eastward, with some additional flooding in sections of Bangladesh. In southern India, light to moderate showers benefitted interior summer crop areas as heavy rain returned to sections of the southwest coast. From July 26 through August 1, moderate to heavy rain returned to important oilseed and cotton areas of central India. In the interior crop areas, the heaviest rain stretched from the groundnut areas of western Gujarat southeastward through Andhra Pradesh, greatly improving moisture reserves for vegetative to reproductive summer crops. However, dry pockets persisted in northern soybean areas, reducing moisture for normal development. In fact, dry, hot weather covered much of north-central India and Pakistan, increasing irrigation requirements for cotton and rice. During August 2-8, rainfall was above-normal for the second week across India's southern interior, benefitting grains, oilseeds, and cotton. Widespread, locally heavy rain also continued in the east, maintaining adequate to abundant moisture levels for rice. However, the additional rainfall prevented the recession of flood waters in Bangladesh and other areas that had been excessively wet. Elsewhere, drier weather dominated the northwest, except for sections of Pakistan just north of the main cotton and rice areas that experienced bouts of heavy rain. Drier weather in western India (Gujarat and western Madhya Pradesh) favored cotton and oilseed growth, notably groundnuts and soybeans. Variable showers in the soybean and rice areas south of New Delhi, provided some relief, but above-normal temperatures increased crop water use.

WESTERN EUROPE: WET AND COOL IN THE NORTH, HOT AND DRY IN THE SOUTH

During June 1998, above-normal rain stretched from England eastward through the Benelux countries, Germany, and Scandinavia, benefitting winter grains in the filling stage and spring grains which progressed through reproduction during the month. However, the precipitation in these areas fell frequently during the month, increasing the potential for disease and raising concerns among growers about crop quality. Farther south, below-normal precipitation in France and Italy's Po Valley continued, which favored winter wheat maturation but limited moisture for summer crop development. Further south, well-below-normal precipitation extended from Spain eastward across Italy and Greece, stressing non-irrigated crops. The dryness in Spain was accompanied by persistent heat, maintaining high crop-water demands. During early July, mostly dry weather in France and Italy's Po Valley favored rapid harvesting of winter grains and oilseeds. Light to moderate showers fell in Germany, slowing early winter grain harvesting but providing favorable moisture for spring-sown crops. Farther south, hot, dry weather continued in Spain, stressing dryland crops and increasing irrigation requirements. During July 12-18, winter grain and oilseed harvesting made some progress in western and southern Europe, although showers caused some delays in the United Kingdom, northern France, and Italy's Po Valley. Above-normal temperatures entrenched over Spain were pushing northward into southern France at week's end. Light to moderate rain kept summer crops well watered across northern Europe. During July 19-25, generally dry weather prevailed over most areas, allowing the swift harvest of winter grains and oil seeds. Hot weather in southern Europe spread north and eastward during the week, promoting rapid development of summer crops and increasing crop moisture requirements. A lack of soil moisture and hot weather in southern France, increased stress on corn and sunflowers, likely in the reproductive to filling stages. Light showers farther north in western France were timely for corn and sunflower development. Elsewhere, dry weather stretched from Spain eastward across Italy into southeastern Europe, stressing dryland crops and increasing irrigation requirement. From July 26 through August 8, winter grain and oilseed harvests continued to advance northward. Widespread rain in southern France and parts of northern Italy favored corn and sunflowers in the filling stage. By August 8, winter grain and oilseed harvests were virtually complete in southern growing areas.

MEXICO: SOUTHERN CORN BELT FAVORED BY RAIN; NORTHEAST BAKES

During June 1998, the rainy season started erratically in the Southern Plateau Corn Belt of Mexico. June rainfall averaged 75 to 90 percent of normal across the eastern Corn Belt, but less than 50 percent of normal across the west. Scattered June showers provided some relief for pastures in north-central Mexico, but hot, dry weather prevailed in the northeast. During the first eleven days of July 1998, widespread showers favored corn germination and establishment across the eastern Corn Belt, but drier weather prevailed in the west. Moderate showers favored pastures in north-central Mexico. Hot, dry weather continued to stress rainfed summer crops in northeastern Mexico. From July 12-18, widespread showers covered the Southern Plateau Corn Belt, aiding corn germination and establishment. The rain helped to offset warm (above normal temperatures) weather. Isolated, heavy showers were reported across the southern coast of Sinaloa due to the formation of a tropical storm. Hot, dry weather continued to bake northeastern Mexico. During July 19-25, lighter showers covered the Southern Plateau, aiding vegetative corn, while showers again favored pastures across north-central Mexico. In the northeast, isolated showers brought limited drought relief. Widespread showers, again covered the Southern Plateau Corn Belt, during July 26 through August 8, favoring vegetative corn, while hot, dry weather returned to the northeast drought area. Temperatures across the northeast drought area remained 2 to 3 degrees C above normal.

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

CHINA: RICE CROP AFFECTED BY FLOODING

China's 1998/99 rice crop is estimated at 138.0 million tons (milled basis), down 2.0 million or 1 percent from last month due to lower area and yield. Area is estimated at 31.3 million hectares, down 0.2 million from last month and 0.5 million from last year. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, early-rice area dropped 4 to 5 percent this year for various reasons, including low prices and weak demand for the crop. The estimated yield of 6.30 tons per hectare is lower than last year's record yield of 6.32 tons per hectare.

Excessive rain in June and July caused widespread flooding in parts of central and southern China, creating unfavorable conditions for the early-rice harvest and late-rice transplanting. Water levels in lakes and rivers in the Yangtze River Valley remain very high in August and flooding continues to be a major threat. Plant diseases and pests have reportedly flourished in the hot, humid weather this year and are expected to pose a greater-than-normal problem.

Output of early rice (23 percent of total output in 1996) is reported to be lower this year in Hubei, Hunan, Guangxi, and Jiangxi Provinces. Late rice (27 percent of total output in 1996) was transplanted in July and is still in the vegetative stage, and it is too early to assess the impact of flooding on the crop. Late-rice yields will largely be determined by the weather in August and September. Single-crop rice (51 percent of total output in 1996) is grown in Northeast China, the North China Plain, Sichuan, and parts of Jiangsu and Hubei outside the flooded areas. The weather for single rice has been generally favorable and high yields are expected.

CHINA: LOWER WHEAT CROP EXPECTED

China's 1998/99 wheat crop is estimated at 110.0 million tons, down 8.0 million or 7 percent from last month and down 11 percent from last year's record crop. Area is estimated at 29.8 million hectares, down slightly from last year. The estimated yield of 3.69 tons per hectare is close to the 5-year average, but down from the last two years.

The State Statistical Bureau announced that 1998/99 summer grain output was 113.1 million tons, down 14.6 million or 11 percent from last year's record crop. Historically, about 88 percent of the summer grain crop is comprised of winter wheat. The U.S. agricultural counselor's office in Beijing traveled to several of China's major winter wheat producing provinces and reported that winter wheat production, which represents 90 percent of China's total wheat crop, was expected to decline as much as 25 percent in parts of Jiangsu and Anhui Provinces, and as much as 20 percent in parts of Shandong and Henan Provinces. These four provinces accounted for 54 percent of China's total wheat crop in 1997. The primary reasons for the decline are unusually dry weather last fall in northern China and excessive rainfall and cloudiness in central and southern China in late spring.

The spring wheat crop, grown primarily in Northeast and Northwest China, is expected to drop slightly in 1998. The weather was generally favorable through most of the growing season, but heavy rainfall during July and August may result in lower yields.

ARGENTINA: RECORD SUNFLOWERSEED OUTPUT FORECAST FOR 1998/99

Sunflowerseed production in Argentina for 1998/99 is forecast at a record 6.25 million tons, up 1 million or 19 percent from last year's output. Area is forecast at a record 3.5 million hectares, up 13 percent from last season. Area is projected to increase because of anticipated higher returns on sunflowerseed relative to other crops and reduced winter wheat area which will allow for increased area available for the main summer crops. It has been suggested by some that drier weather associated with La Nina might favor sunflowerseed over other crops and this may influence some growers' planting decisions. In Argentina, sunflowers are planted from September through December and harvested from February through May. The 1997/98 year was marked by high early-season expectations due to favorable weather, followed by a disappointing finish due to excessive rain. Crop forecasts were dropped from record production levels on record area to much lower levels based on a reduction of area due to abandonment and below-average yields due to disease and lodging.

EUROPEAN UNION: RECORD GRAIN PRODUCTION FORECAST

The European Union (EU-15) is forecast to produce a record 211.5 million tons of grain (wheat, coarse grains, and milled rice) for the 1998/99 season, up 6.1 million from last year's previous record level. Wheat is forecast at a record 103.3 million tons, up 8.9 million or 9 percent from 1997/98. Coarse grain output is forecast at 106.5 million tons, down 2.9 million or 3 percent from last year, while milled rice production is pegged at 1.7 million, up 3 percent from the previous season. Favorable weather throughout the growing season and a continued 5-percent set aside program are the main reasons why production has soared this season.

For wheat, area is estimated at 17.0 million hectares, down slightly from last season; however yield is projected at a record 6.07 tons per hectare. The yield surpasses the previous record of 5.89 tons per hectare in 1996/97. In France, wheat production is forecast at a record 39.0 million tons, based on a record area and yield of 5.23 million hectares and 7.46 tons per hectare, respectively. In Germany, record wheat output is forecast at 20.5 million tons due to a record area of 2.79 million hectares and record yield of 7.35 tons per hectare. In Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom, bumper wheat harvests also are forecast.

For coarse grains, area is estimated at 20.0 million tons, down slightly from 1997/98 and yield is projected at 5.33 tons per hectare, down marginally from last year's record level. Corn production is estimated at 35.2 million tons, down 9 percent from last season's record due mainly to a lower yield projection for France and reduced area for Italy. Barley production is forecast at 53.4 million tons, up 2 percent from 1997/98 due to a bumper crop in Spain and continued good crops in France and Germany. Oat and rye production are estimated near last season's levels of 6.5 and 6.1 million tons, respectively. EU-15 oat area is down from last year, while rye area is up.

Rice area in the EU-15 is estimated at 0.4 million hectares, up marginally from last year due to an expansion of Indica varieties in Italy. Italy's production is estimated at 1.0 million tons as favorable weather has boosted yield to 6.23 tons per hectare. Spain, the other major rice producer, is forecast to produce 0.6 million tons, virtually unchanged from 1997/98.

UNITED STATES: CROP CONDITION AND PROGRESS

Above-normal precipitation early in the month kept some already saturated fields under standing water in low-lying areas in the eastern and southern Corn Belt. As the month progressed, corn and soybean development remained ahead of normal, as mostly seasonable weather continued to promote rapid growth. Near the end of the month, soaking rains relieved excessive dryness in some areas of the eastern Corn Belt, but also caused additional flooding in the river bottoms of the lower Missouri and Ohio Valleys, while parts of the Great Lakes region remained dry. Cool weather slowed crop development slightly as the month ended, but also reduced crop moisture requirements.

Extreme heat in the southern Great Plains, Mississippi Delta, and Southeast stressed crops early in the month. Widespread thunderstorms near mid-month brought heavy rainfall to parts of the lower Mississippi Valley and Southeastern States, replenishing soil moisture, revitalizing crops, and extinguishing many Florida wildfires. Crops in the southern Great Plains, western Gulf Coast, southern Appalachians, and adjoining Piedmont areas continued to be stressed by excessive heat and dry soils through most of the month.

Moderate temperatures in the Pacific Northwest provided ideal growing conditions early in the month, while warm, humid weather sped small grain and row crop development in the northern Great Plains. Early-month rains interfered with the winter wheat harvest in the central Great Plains, but improved soil moisture levels that aided row crops. Above-normal temperatures during the last half of the month accelerated small grain ripening in the Pacific Northwest and across the northern Great Plains. Consequently, harvest of wheat and other small grains began 1 to 2 weeks early and progressed ahead of normal through the end of the month.

In California, cool weather carried over from June, further delaying crop development as the month began. However, seasonably dry weather allowed field activities to accelerate. Warmer weather during the second half of the month accelerated crop development, but progress remained up to 3 weeks behind normal when the month ended.

FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

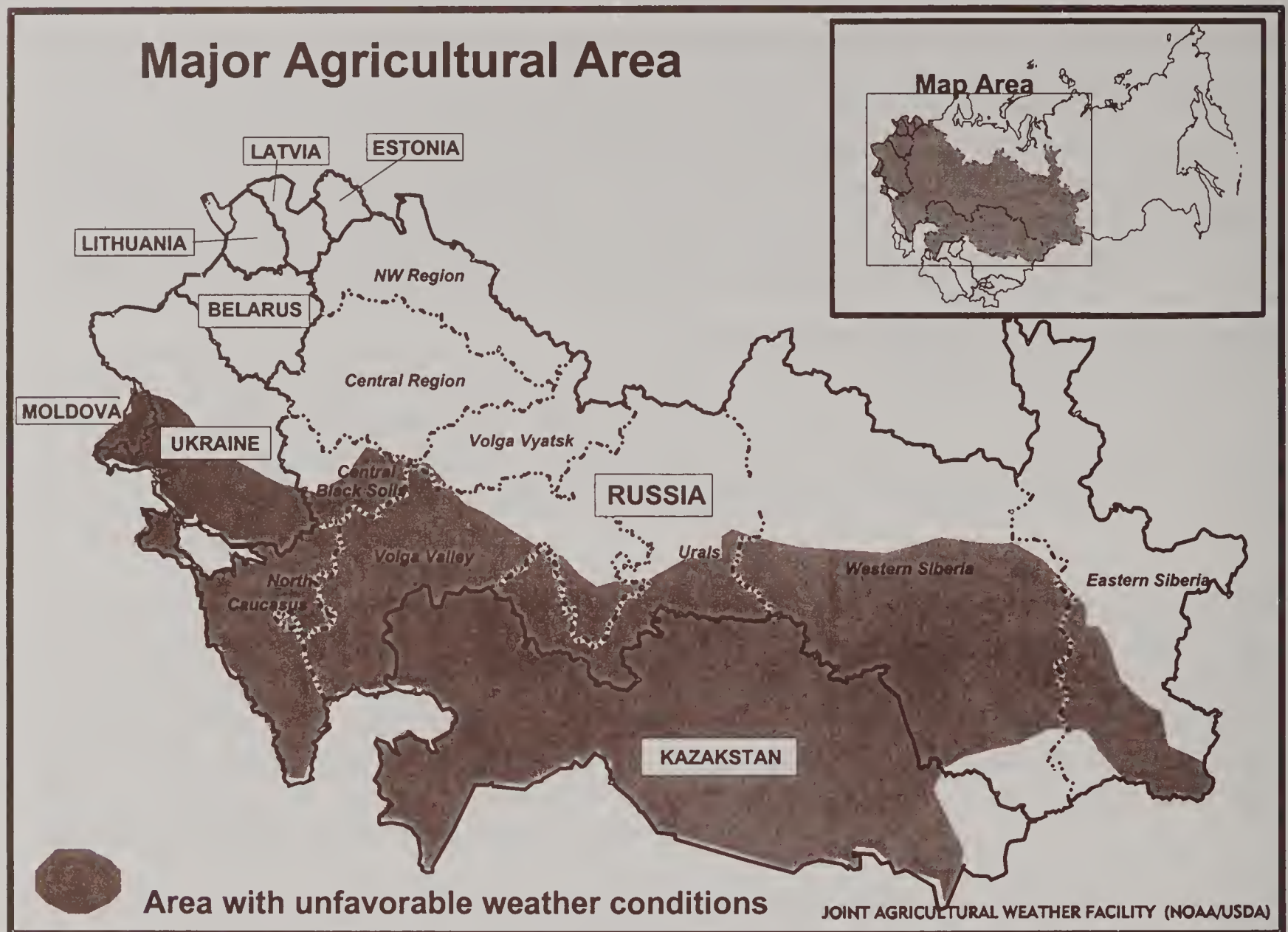
In July, unfavorable weather adversely affected spring grain and summer crop development in both Russia and Ukraine. Drought conditions worsened in the Volga Valley region in Russia, where well-below-normal precipitation continued an insufficient moisture pattern that has prevailed over the region during the entire growing season. Elsewhere in Russia, unfavorable dryness continued in the eastern portion of the Black Soils Region and North Caucasus. Although the dryness in Russia favored rapid winter grain harvesting, it reduced prospects for corn and sunflowers which advanced through the reproductive phase of development during the month. In Ukraine, below-normal precipitation continued in eastern areas, with a drying trend developing in the south. The dryness in Russia and eastern and southern Ukraine was accompanied by a heat wave that began around July 21 and persisted through August 5, placing moderate to severe stress on summer crops. On most days during the period, maximum temperatures ranged from the middle 30's degrees C to 40 degrees C. From August 6-7, a frontal system pushed through Ukraine and Russia, bringing cooler weather along with scattered showers, helping to stabilize conditions for summer crops. Reports as of August 8 indicated that the harvest of spring grains and pulses, excluding corn, was about 20 percent

complete in Russia and about 85 percent complete in Ukraine.

In crop areas east of the Volga Valley, spring grains advanced through the highly weather-sensitive reproductive phase of development during July. Drought continued in the southern Urals and western Kazakhstan, causing further declines in yield prospects for spring grains (spring wheat, spring barley, and oats). The unfavorable heat and dryness spread eastward into major grain producing areas of central Kazakhstan and adjacent areas in Western Siberia, accelerating spring grain development and lowering yield prospects. On most days during July, maximum temperatures ranged from 30 to 35 degrees C, with temperatures on some days ranging from 35 to 40 degrees C. Since early August, unfavorably hot, dry weather continued in Kazakhstan, the southern Urals, and central areas in Western Siberia, hastening early maturity in crops.

Tom Puterbaugh 720-2012 (August 1998)

FORMER SOVIET UNION



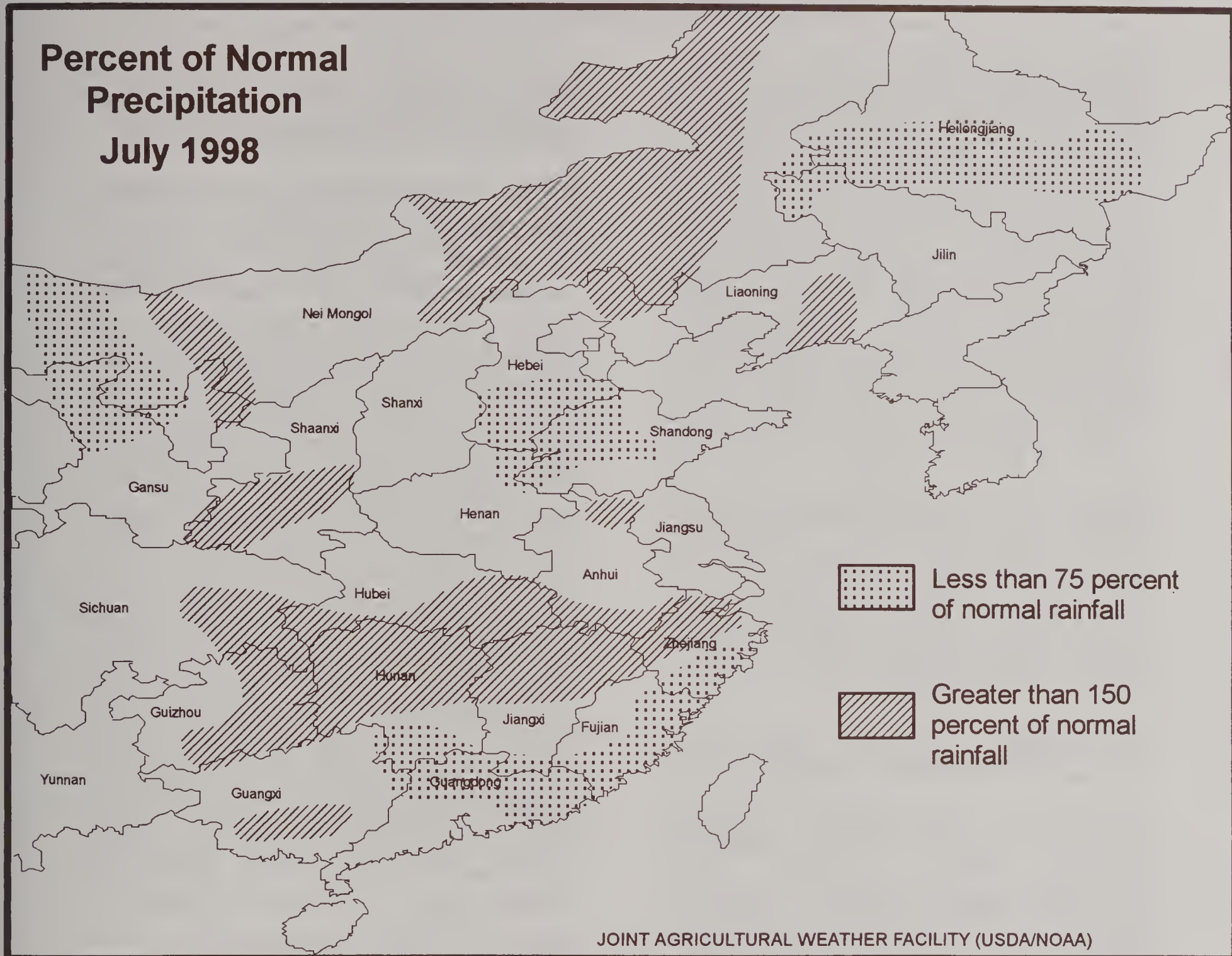
WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

August 12, 1998

- o In Russia, persistent hot, dry weather reduced prospects for spring grains and summer crops but allowed rapid winter grain harvesting. The dryness in the Volga Valley and southern Urals has persisted during the entire growing season.
- o In Kazakhstan, unfavorably hot, dry weather accelerated spring grain development and lowered yield prospects.
- o In Ukraine, below-normal precipitation and hot weather in eastern and southern areas stressed corn and sunflowers, advancing through reproduction. Recently, cooler weather and scattered showers eased stress on crops.

MAP 5
CHINA

**Percent of Normal
Precipitation
July 1998**



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 12, 1998

- Across the North China Plain and Manchuria, near- to slightly below-normal July rainfall provided adequate moisture for reproductive summer crops. Widespread early August rainfall brought relief to those areas that received below-normal rainfall in July.
- Along the Yangtze Valley, excessive showers in late July caused flooding and possible damage to early rice and cotton and delayed late rice planting. The heaviest rain fell during the week of July 19-25, when 200-450 mm stretched from northeastern Guizhou to northern Hunan and eastward into western Zhejiang. Drier weather is needed to allow late rice planting to resume.

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

DURUM WHEAT PROSPECTS FOR 1998/99

Durum wheat production for 1998/99 in selected durum-producing countries is forecast at a record 30.8 million tons, up 6.4 million or 26 percent from last year and the highest since 29.6 million produced in 1991/92. Harvested area is forecast at 16.1 million hectares, up 1.2 million from last season while yield is forecast at a record 1.91 tons per hectare, up 16 percent from 1997/98. Approximately 5 percent of all wheat grown is durum, with the European Union (EU-15), Canada, and the United States accounting for nearly sixty percent of global production. The 1998/99 crop is forecast to be significantly higher than last year due to increases for the United States, EU-15, Canada, Syria, Turkey, Algeria, and Morocco. A premium on durum due to smaller crops last year in most of the major exporters and importers resulted in many countries expanding area.

United States: Total U.S. durum wheat production for 1998/99 is forecast at 3.4 million tons, up 46 percent from last season. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) "Crop Production" report, released on August 12, durum area is forecast at 1.5 million hectares, up 15 percent from 1997/98. About 5 percent of all U.S. wheat grown is durum and about 65 percent of the U.S. durum wheat crop is produced in North Dakota. The North Dakota crop is developing ahead of the 5-year average and moderate scab damage has been found in some early seeded north-central fields. Combining was just underway in Montana and North Dakota as of August 2. Arizona and California's desert harvests are completed. According to NASS, durum production in Arizona and California has risen 80 and 34 percent, respectively, from 1997/98 due to

increases in area and yield. North Dakota's output is forecast to rise 44 percent from last season also due to increased area and yield.

EU-15: Durum wheat output for 1998/99 is forecast at 8.6 million tons, up 2.0 million or 30 percent from 1997/98. Production increases are forecast for most EU member States. Total harvested area is forecast at 3.0 million hectares, down 2 percent from last season. The continued strength in durum area is attributed to the EU set-aside program and subsidies which make it more profitable to sow on marginally productive land. Total yield for the EU-15 is forecast at 2.86 tons per hectare, 23 percent above the 5-year average of 2.31 tons per hectare. In Spain, excessively wet weather disrupted planting intentions last fall and caused area to drop below the 1997/98 level. However, during the growing season weather improved and boosted production to a bumper 1.4 million tons, up 26 percent from 1997/98. Italy's production is forecast to increase to 4.5 million tons, up 0.9 million from last season due to improved growing conditions especially in the central and southern regions. For France, the weather has been very favorable throughout most of the season. Production is forecast at 1.5 million tons, up 74 percent from the drought reduced 1997/98 crop. Record yield is forecast at 5.45 tons per hectare.

Canada: Production of durum wheat in Canada is forecast at a record 6.3 million tons, up 2.0 million or 45 percent from the harvest of a year earlier. This season's forecast production smashes the previous record of 4.7 million of 1994/95. Durum area is forecast at 2.9 million hectares, up 0.7 million hectares or 32 percent from last season and 10 percent

above the previous high of 2.6 million hectares harvested in 1989/90. Low stocks and relatively high prices caused producers to expand area dramatically. Approximately 80 percent of the durum wheat is grown in Saskatchewan Province. The growing season has been mixed thus far beginning with early-season scattered freezing temperatures and dry pocket, followed by favorable weather across portions of the Prairies Provinces. The national yield is forecast near the 5-year average at 2.17 tons per hectare.

Former Soviet Union: Russia and Kazakstan are the primary producers of durum in the former Soviet Union. Neither State publishes separate durum area or production estimates; however, USDA forecasts Russia's durum production for 1998/99 at 1.4 million tons, down 22 percent from the last season. Hot, dry temperatures in the main durum growing area in the Volga Valley has reduced yield to 0.67 tons per hectare, down 20 percent from 1997/98. In Kazakstan, production is forecast at 0.6 million tons, up 0.1 million from last season as an increase in demand caused producers to plant additional area. Generally, favorable weather allowed increased plantings and aided crop development in northern Kazakstan where most of the durum is produced.

India: Durum production in India for 1998/99 is forecast at 1.0 million tons, down 0.8 million or 44 percent from last year. Although there are no official estimates for durum wheat, reports indicate that durum area is reduced from the previous season due to low price realization and marketing problems. Late plantings, due to excessive rainfall, and poor yields in the Punjab caused durum production to decline this season. About 90 percent of the durum produced in India comes from Punjab and Madhya Pradesh, with Gujarat also producing some minor quantities. Harvest

occurs during April and May.

Turkey: Durum output for 1998/99 is forecast at a record 2.4 million tons, up 0.2 million or 9 percent from last year's crop. Favorable rainfall and temperatures boosted yield above last season's level, to 2.18 tons per hectare. Harvested area is forecast at 1.1 million hectares, unchanged from last season as farmers continued planting durum in response to higher support prices. Thrace (European Turkey) and central Anatolia produce the bulk of Turkey's durum crop. The "sunni" insect, which regularly infests the crop, was relatively inactive again this year compared to previous years. Durum wheat production is not broken out in Turkish official production statistics.

Algeria: The 1998/99 durum crop in Algeria is forecast at 1.1 million tons, up 0.4 million or 69 percent from last year's drought-reduced crop. Harvested area is forecast at 1.1 million hectares, up 57 percent from 1997/98 due to sufficient soil moisture for planting. Almost 70 percent of the total area sown to wheat is durum, which is primarily located in the eastern and central production areas.

Morocco: Durum output in Morocco for 1998/99 is forecast at 1.6 million tons, up 0.7 million or 74 percent from last season's crop. Over the last several years, Morocco has alternated between bumper and poor harvests; this season's harvest falls in between. Durum area is forecast at 1.0 million hectares, up 3 percent from last year. The weather was mixed this season with dry spells and periods of above-normal rainfall-- hence average yields were realized. Roughly 40 percent of the wheat grown in Morocco is durum wheat and is grown mainly in the north.

Tunisia: Durum production in Tunisia for 1998/99 is forecast at 1.1 million tons, up 0.3 million or 38 percent from the previous season's poor crop. Early-season rainfall and

scattered precipitation thereafter was beneficial for the crop. Yield is forecast at 1.83 tons per hectare, up 38 percent from 1997/98. Harvested area is forecast at 0.6 million hectares, unchanged from last year. About three-fourths of all wheat grown in Tunisia is durum and production is centered in the northern regions of Bizerte, Le Kef, Mateur, Jendouba, and Beja.

Syria: Durum production for 1998/99 is forecast at 2.6 million tons, up 0.7 million or 37 percent from 1997/98. Harvested area is

unchanged from the previous season. Rainfall was adequate at sowing in the fall of 1997. Rainfall and temperatures are supportive for good yield potential, with the exception of above-normal temperatures in early-April. About 40 percent of the total-wheat area is grown on irrigated land which is increasing due to the drilling of additional wells and implementation of irrigation projects in northeastern Syria. Nearly two-thirds of Syria's wheat is durum.

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DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES

Harvested Area

	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
	(Thousand hectares)									
Total	15,135	15,731	16,304	14,745	13,672	14,390	14,661	15,797	14,934	16,103
United States	1,500	1,419	1,294	991	850	1,099	1,358	1,439	1,257	1,450
Foreign	13,635	14,312	15,010	13,754	12,822	13,291	13,303	14,358	13,677	14,653
Algeria	1,010	1,060	1,150	1,200	1,000	700	1,250	1,200	700	1,100
Argentina	22	20	38	41	34	42	55	83	81	80
Canada	2,630	2,092	1,992	1,459	1,441	2,287	2,125	2,064	2,200	2,900
France	297	395	499	426	222	235	229	270	264	275
Germany	13	10	16	16	10	11	8	8	8	10
Greece	515	520	674	674	450	480	450	450	470	500
Italy	1,800	1,702	1,680	1,531	1,410	1,527	1,623	1,628	1,664	1,600
Portugal	26	10	23	26	17	21	26	26	27	22
Spain	129	190	468	630	623	610	450	648	642	615
United Kingdom	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1
European Union	2,781	2,829	3,362	3,305	2,734	2,886	2,788	3,031	3,076	3,023
Morocco	1,170	1,250	1,245	1,088	1,134	1,336	800	1,250	970	1,000
Syria	250	400	685	750	1,000	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,300	1,300
Tunisia	446	733	893	835	780	400	560	900	600	600
Turkey	1,300	1,200	920	810	720	750	800	900	1,100	1,100
Russia	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Kazakstan	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,500	1,200	1,000	900	800	700	800
Australia	26	28	25	36	49	40	55	80	100	200
India	NA	700	700	730	730	750	770	750	750	450

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 21

DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES **Yield**

	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
	(Tons per hectare)									
Total	1.40	1.71	1.81	1.77	1.56	1.75	1.61	1.86	1.64	1.91
United States	1.67	2.35	2.19	2.67	2.26	2.40	2.05	2.20	1.87	2.37
Foreign	1.37	1.64	1.78	1.71	1.52	1.70	1.56	1.83	1.62	1.87
Algeria	0.84	0.54	1.09	1.08	0.80	0.86	0.88	1.33	0.93	1.00
Argentina	2.55	2.20	3.00	2.98	2.29	2.38	1.76	2.33	3.54	2.50
Canada	1.57	2.01	2.30	2.15	2.33	2.05	2.19	2.24	1.98	2.17
France	4.55	5.06	5.09	4.40	3.99	4.44	4.53	4.65	3.27	5.45
Germany	5.08	4.70	4.94	4.31	4.60	5.27	4.63	5.88	4.25	6.50
Greece	2.18	1.92	2.82	1.56	1.44	2.29	2.04	1.44	2.13	2.26
Italy	1.70	2.15	3.06	2.83	2.70	2.55	2.34	2.46	2.16	2.81
Portugal	-	1.20	1.91	0.88	1.76	2.05	1.00	1.58	1.63	1.64
Spain	2.66	3.19	2.85	2.03	1.19	1.58	0.67	2.39	1.73	2.28
United Kingdom	7.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
European Union	2.16	2.59	3.29	2.61	2.25	2.47	2.20	2.49	2.16	2.86
Morocco	1.51	1.29	1.78	0.63	0.56	1.75	0.63	1.82	0.91	1.55
Syria	0.90	1.00	0.95	1.27	1.50	1.77	2.14	2.04	1.46	2.00
Tunisia	0.75	1.22	1.59	1.58	1.41	1.10	0.84	1.80	1.33	1.83
Turkey	1.35	1.67	1.63	1.54	1.60	1.43	1.63	1.67	2.00	2.18
Russia	1.00	1.25	0.75	1.25	1.00	0.90	0.76	0.86	0.86	0.67
Kazakstan	0.75	1.25	0.50	1.33	0.83	0.95	0.56	0.75	0.71	0.75
Australia	2.31	2.50	2.00	2.50	3.06	1.38	3.64	3.25	2.80	2.50
India	NA	2.00	2.00	2.05	2.05	2.27	2.47	2.40	2.40	2.22

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

DURUM WHEAT in SELECTED COUNTRIES

Production

	(Thousand metric tons)									
	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Total	21,192	26,871	29,566	26,134	21,347	25,252	23,579	29,427	24,452	30,816
United States	2,510	3,332	2,829	2,645	1,918	2,633	2,784	3,159	2,346	3,430
Foreign	18,682	23,539	26,737	23,489	19,429	22,619	20,795	26,268	22,106	27,386
Algeria	850	575	1,250	1,300	800	600	1,100	1,600	650	1,100
Argentina	56	44	114	122	78	100	97	193	287	200
Canada	4,140	4,197	4,586	3,138	3,358	4,689	4,648	4,627	4,350	6,300
France	1,350	2,000	2,540	1,875	885	1,044	1,037	1,255	864	1,500
Germany	66	47	79	69	46	58	37	47	34	65
Greece	1,122	1,000	1,900	1,050	650	1,100	920	650	1,000	1,130
Italy	3,066	3,663	5,139	4,328	3,800	3,900	3,800	4,000	3,600	4,500
Portugal	47	12	44	23	30	43	26	41	44	36
Spain	343	607	1,335	1,279	741	963	300	1,550	1,110	1,400
United Kingdom	7	10	10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5
European Union	6,001	7,339	11,047	8,634	6,162	7,118	6,130	7,548	6,657	8,636
Morocco	1,767	1,617	2,216	682	631	2,342	500	2,270	882	1,550
Syria	225	400	650	950	1,500	1,950	2,350	2,450	1,900	2,600
Tunisia	333	897	1,424	1,323	1,100	440	470	1,620	800	1,100
Turkey	1,750	2,000	1,500	1,250	1,150	1,075	1,300	1,500	2,200	2,400
Russia	2,000	2,500	1,500	2,500	2,000	1,800	1,600	1,800	1,800	1,400
Kazakstan	1,500	2,500	1,000	2,000	1,000	750	500	600	500	600
Australia	60	70	50	90	150	55	200	260	280	500
India	NA	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,500	1,700	1,900	1,800	1,800	1,000

August 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

CANADIAN OILSEEDS PRODUCTION

A larger oilseed planted area in Canada this year is expected to result in increased harvested area and greater production. Total Canadian oilseed harvested area (excluding flaxseed) for 1998/99 is estimated second only to the level of the 1994/95 season. However, extended dry weather in the Canadian Prairie Provinces combined with damaging frosts in certain regions will limit yield potential to near average levels.

According to Statistics Canada, oilseed planted area (including rapeseed soybeans, flax, and sunflowerseed) increased 33 percent in 1997/98 from the previous year. In June, Statistics Canada reported oilseed planted area up an additional 9 percent in 1998/99. Producers in 1998/99 reportedly planted 7 percent more rapeseed (canola) and 20 percent more flax while planting 8 percent less area to soybeans than in 1997/98.

This article includes planted area data based on Statistics Canada's June 30, 1998, report "Preliminary Estimates of Principle Field Crop Areas". Production and harvested area data, unless otherwise indicated, are U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates.

Canola: In 1997/98, stronger projected relative returns caused farmers to shift area away from major grains and plant 36 percent more canola acreage. Statistics Canada reports a further 11 percent increase in planted area is estimated for 1998/99 largely because of reduced price expectations for spring wheat relative to other crops. Given current planting estimates and near average yields, canola production in 1998/99 is projected at 7.0 million tons, a 13-percent increase over the previous year.

Canada's increasing canola output is being driven by strong demand in its major foreign

and domestic markets. The Canadian industry generally does not segregate transgenic rapeseed from varieties developed through traditional breeding. Because of strong demand by major markets, and rotational concerns which limit potential area, it does not appear that future output will be seriously limited by import restrictions on transgenic varieties.

Domestic demand for Canadian rapeseed production has been enhanced by strong foreign demand as well as increasing crush capacity. Industry sources indicate Canada's canola crush capacity to be in the range of 4.5 million to 5.0 million tons, excluding the capacity of a recently constructed plant in Ste. Agathe, Manitoba which just began operations. Press reports indicate the Ste. Agathe plant would be North America's largest non-solvent, double press rapeseed plant; capacity is reported at 330,000 tons per year.

Soybeans: Increased area planted to soybeans in 1997/98 resulted in record Canadian production of about 2.70 million tons. The increased area was in part due to last year's late, wet Spring which favored soybean production over wheat and corn in eastern Canada. For 1998/99, a return to normal seeding conditions is expected to result in a 6-percent decrease in Canadian soybean output.

As with rapeseed, Canadian soybean output has been encouraged by increasing crush capacity the last several years. The Canadian Oilseeds Processors Association estimates Canadian soybean crushing capacity at 2 million tons, the result of recent expansions in crushing and storage facilities in Ontario.

Sunflowerseed: Relative to rapeseed and soybeans, sunflowers are a minor crop in

Canada. Sunflowerseed output in 1997/98 was 65,000 tons, up from 56,000 tons in 1996/97, and production is forecast at 90,000 tons for 1998/99. Statistics Canada estimates that 73 percent of output was produced in Manitoba in 1997/98, 22 percent in Saskatchewan, with the remaining 5 percent grown in Alberta.

Flaxseed: The United States Department of Agriculture does not produce official estimates

for foreign flax production, but Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada estimates its domestic flaxseed output for 1998/99 up 31 percent from last year, to 1.1 million tons. The higher output is expected to ameliorate the current situation of very low stock levels. Press reports say the Canadian flax industry delayed plans to market the first transgenic variety of flax this spring, citing fears it would jeopardize access to the EU, Canada's largest foreign market for flaxseed.

<u>CANADIAN OILSEEDS</u>					
	<u>1994/95</u>	<u>1995/96</u>	<u>1996/97</u>	<u>1997/98</u>	<u>1998/99</u>
AREA HARVESTED (thousand hectares)					
Rapeseed	5,755	5,273	3,451	4,800	5,350
Soybeans	820	824	860	1,050	975
Sunflowerseed	83	45	36	50	65
TOTAL	6,658	6,142	4,347	5,900	6,390
YIELD (metric tons per hectare)					
Rapeseed	1.26	1.22	1.47	1.29	1.31
Soybeans	2.75	2.78	2.52	2.57	2.62
Sunflowerseed	1.41	1.47	1.56	1.30	1.39
TOTAL	1.44	1.43	1.68	1.52	1.51
PRODUCTION (thousand metric tons)					
Rapeseed	7,233	6,436	5,062	6,200	7,000
Soybeans	2,251	2,293	2,165	2,700	2,550
Sunflowerseed	117	66	56	65	90
TOTAL	9,601	8,795	7,283	8,965	9,640

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